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Genotoxic risk for workers from São Paulo city, Brazil, due to occupational exposure to traffic air pollution

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Introduction

- Exposure to particulate matter fraction with aerodynamic diameter ≤2.5 μm (PM_{2.5})contributes to increased mortality and morbidity, inducing stress in the lung and causing aggravation of pre-existing diseases.
- Thousands of people exposed continuously to PM_{2.5} the long term effects of this ubiquitous pollutant causes major problems to global public health.
- Cytogenetic studies reporting the frequency of Micronuclei (MN) in subjects exposed to polluted air during their workday provide a direct measure of the genotoxic impact on individual health.

Objective

The aim of the present study was to evaluate the genotoxic effects of occupational exposure to vehicular PM_{2.5} in healthy male subjects working in different locations of São Paulo city.

Casuistic



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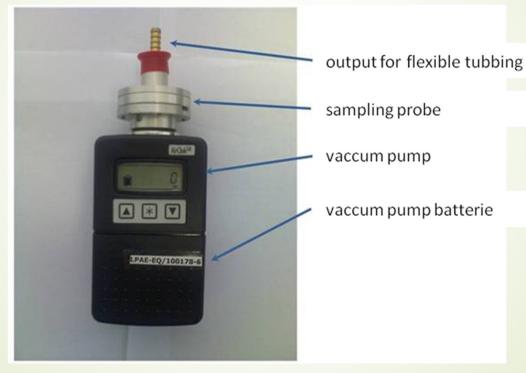


17 traffic controllers (TC)26 taxi drivers (taxi)

15 workers from the Forestry Institute (FI)

Exposure Assessment Methods

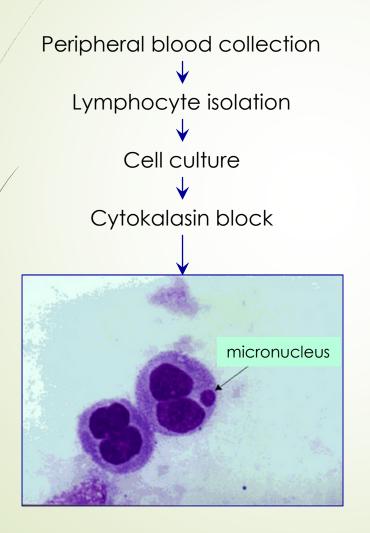
Individual sampler particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$)

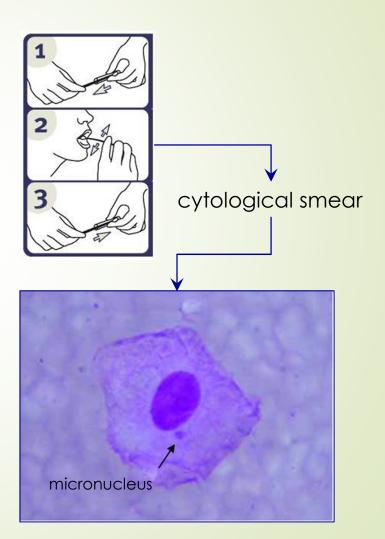




Major components of fine particulate matter sampler with a flow rate of 4 Lpm, with impactor developed by the School of Public Health at Harvard, adapted for individual use at LPAE.

Micronuclei analysis

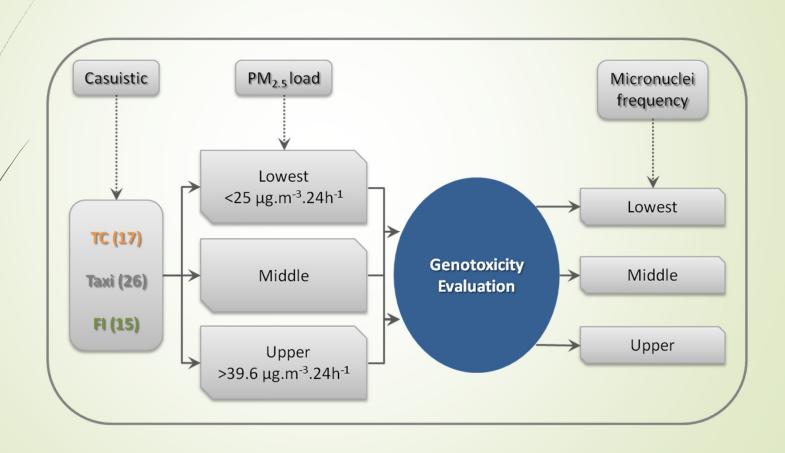




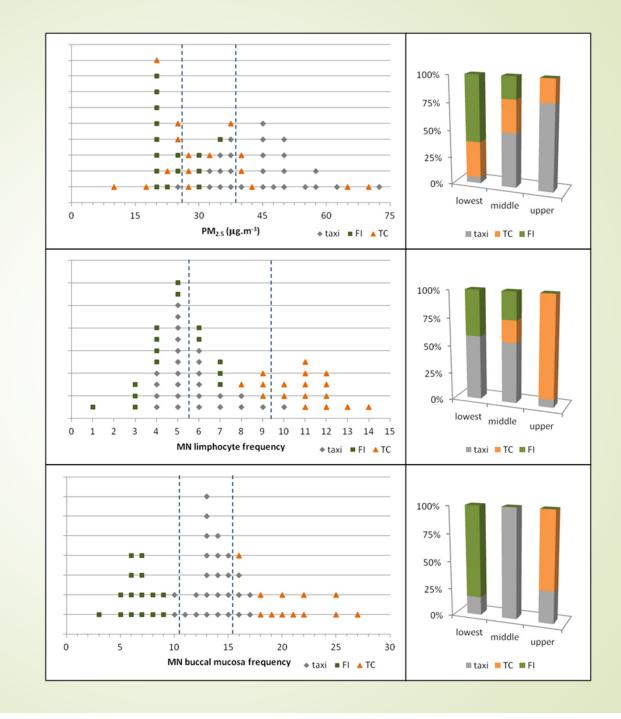
Statistical Analysis

- Qui square
- Regression analysis
- P values less than 0.05 were considered statistically significant.

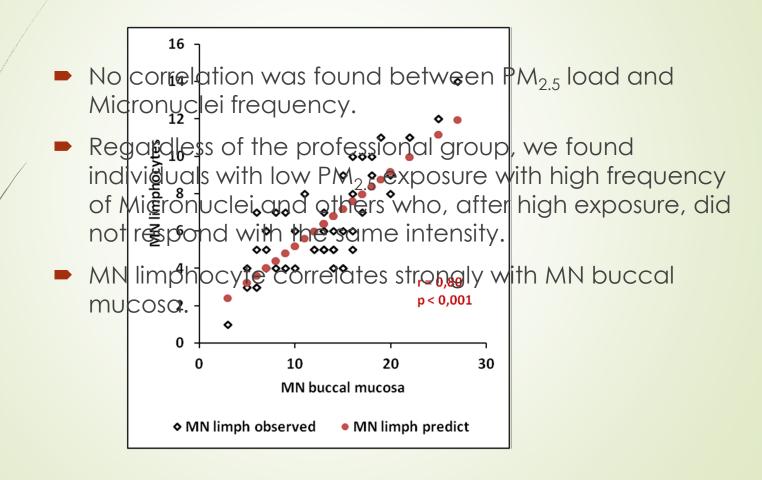
Results



Results



Results



Conclusion

- The genotoxicity observed in this and other studies following exposure to particulate matter can be explained by the toxicokinetics of inhaled particles and by epigenetics.
- Additional studies should be conducted to clarify the weight that each factor has on genotoxicity due to exposure to particulate matter in the air from large urban centers.

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