

Most of the available evidence linking long-term air pollution exposure with mortality comes from North American studies.

The first Italian study aimed to analyze the association between long-term exposure to nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) and mortality has been published on Environmental Health Perspectives.

More than a million adults residents in Rome has been followed from 2001 to 2010. Exposure to NO₂ and PM_{2.5} has been attributed to each residence address.

Residents in Rome are exposed to annual mean concentrations equal to 44 µg/m³ NO₂ and 23 µg/m³ PM_{2.5}, very close to the present European Union guidelines (40 µg/m³ for NO₂ and 25 µg/m³ for PM_{2.5}). However, this study highlighted an increased mortality risk (for non-accidental causes, cardiovascular diseases, ischemic heart diseases, and lung cancer) with increasing levels of exposure to NO₂ and PM_{2.5}, even below the current EU guidelines.

Per saperne di più

Environmental Health Perspectives

<http://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/2013/01/1205862/>

http://www.corriere.it/salute/13_gennaio_10/smog-roma-ricerca_fcbfc3a4-5b19-11e2-b99a-09ab2491ad91.shtml

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