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Multi-centre health effect studies on inhaled combustion derived (nano)particles in rats and humans

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Adverse health effects of PM

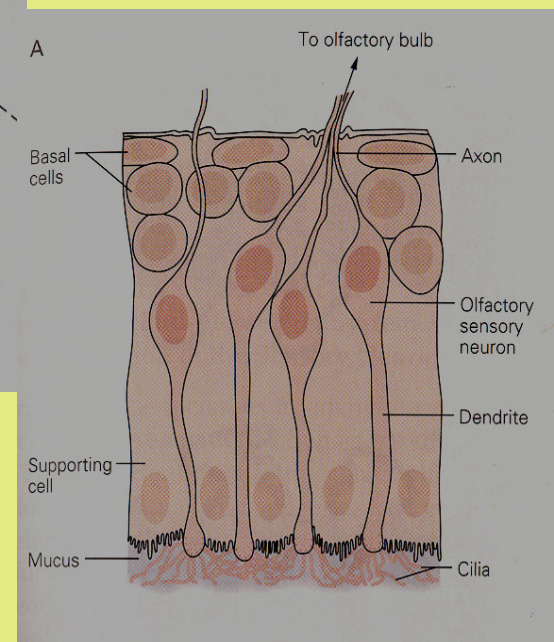
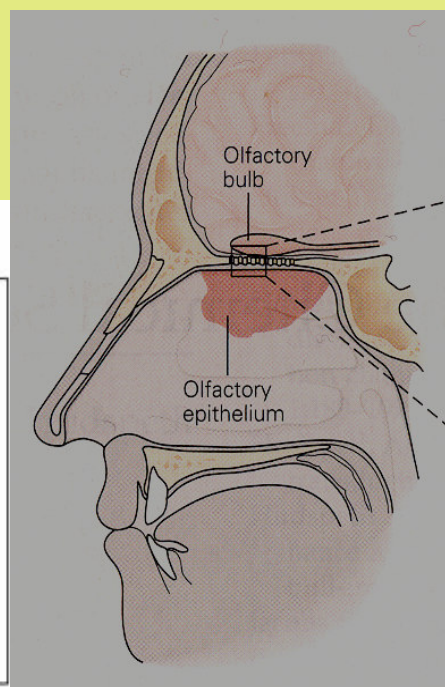
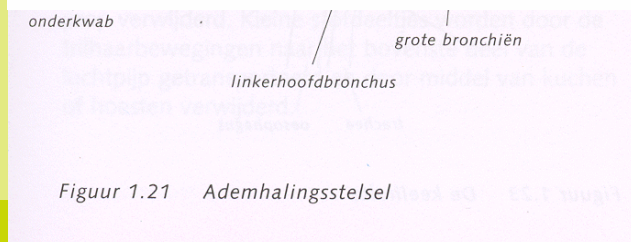
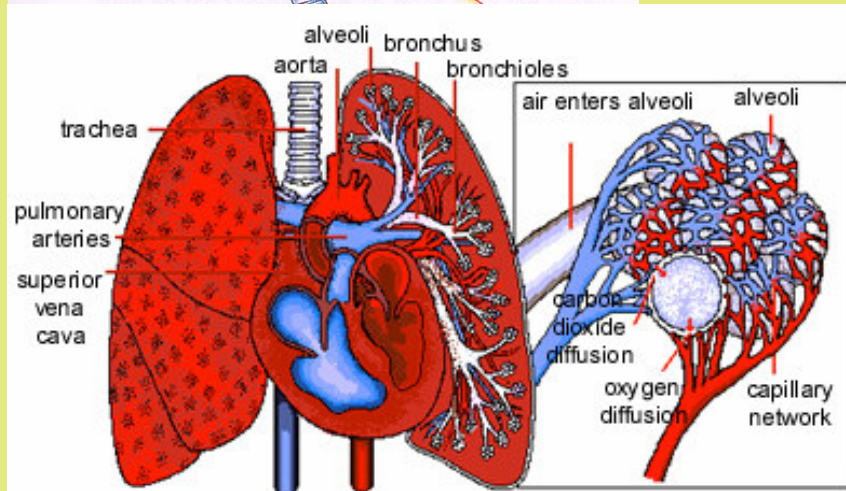
Epidemiology

- Shortening of life expectancy
- Impaired lung development of otherwise healthy children living near a freeway

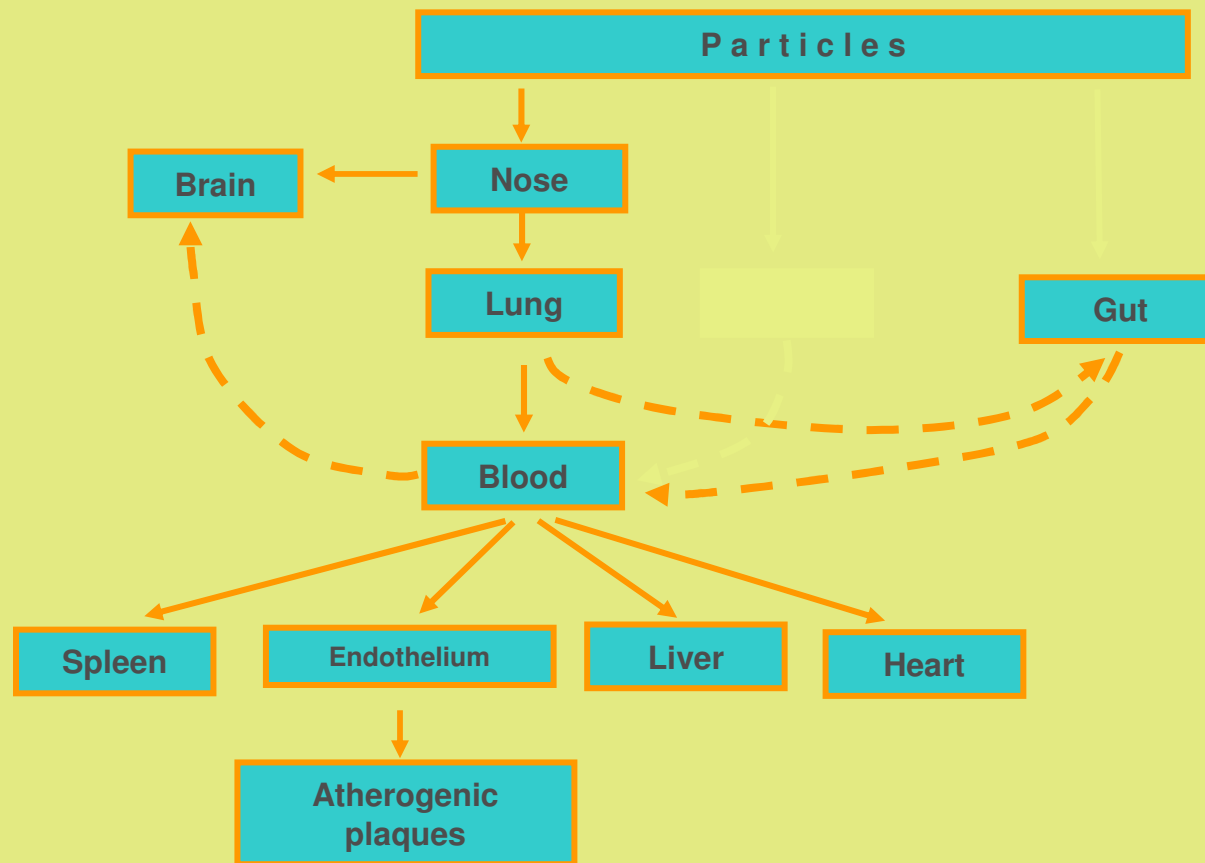
In vivo studies

- Emissions from highways result in inflammation of the lung and cardiovascular changes

Routes of exposure to (nano)particles



Toxicokinetics of PM



Courtesy K. Donaldson

Controlled diesel engine exhaust studies – volunteers and rats

Rat studies

1. Sub-chronic exposure (4 weeks; 150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
2. Acute exposure – time series (2 hours; 1.9 mg/m^3)
3. Acute exposure – myography (2 hours; 300 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
4. Acute exposure – vagus nerve (6 hours 4.9 mg/m^3)

Human volunteers

- Acute exposure - plethysmography (2 hours; 300 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)
- Acute exposure - QEEG (1 hour; 300 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$)

Rat study: Sub-chronic exposure

- Exposure

- Male Fisher F344 rats (15-16 weeks)
- Ozone exposure 0.4 ppm for 12 hours
- 4 weeks; 5 days/week; 6 hours/day
- **150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ diesel engine exhaust**
- Nose-only
- Characterisation (mass, number, size distribution, sulphate, nitrate, XRF, EC/OC, LPS, volatile organic components)

- Effect assessment

- 24 hours post-exposure
- Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF), blood, tissues
- Oxidative stress, inflammation, tissue damage



Rat study: Sub-chronic exposure

Summary

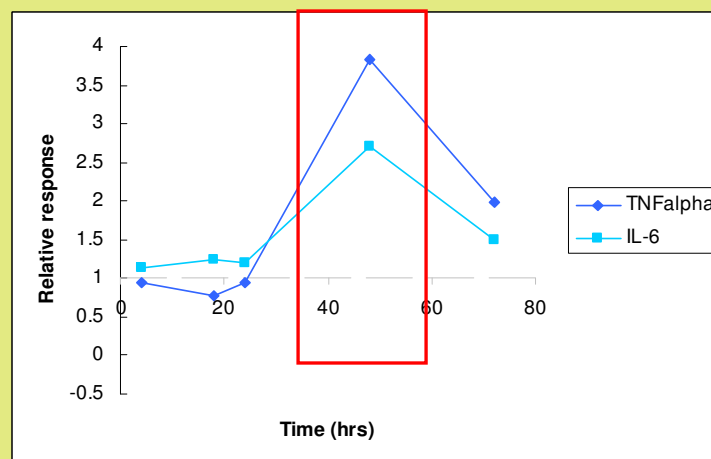
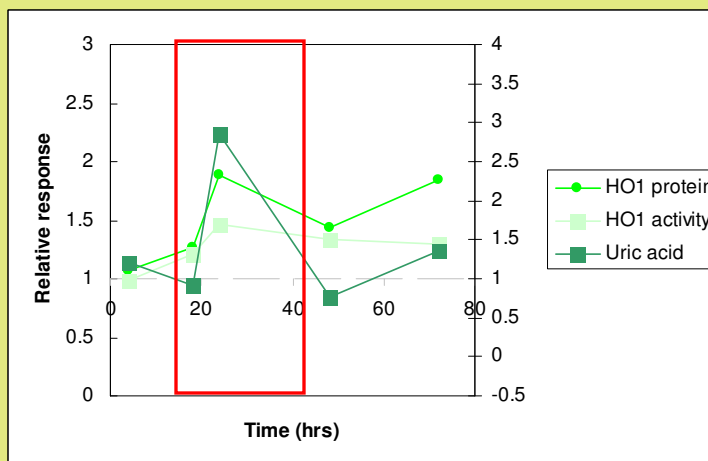
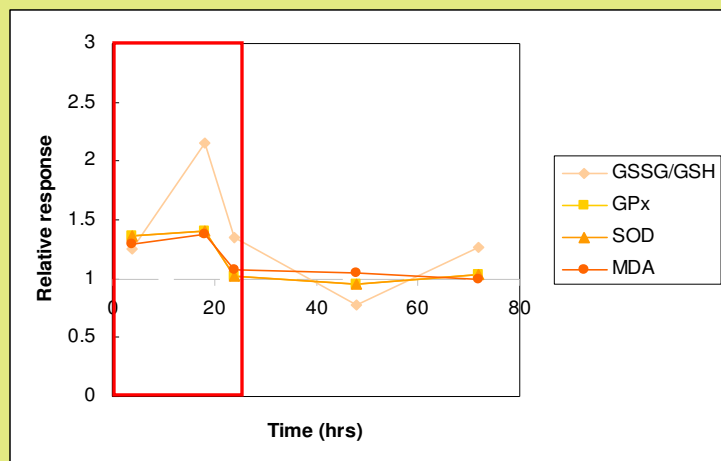
- Exposure to diesel engine exhaust resulted in an oxidative stress response and impaired fibrinolysis and coagulation
- No inflammation or changes in vascular function

Rat study: Acute exposure – time series Design

- Exposure
 - Male Fisher F344 rats (9 weeks old)
 - **1.9 mg/m³ diesel engine exhaust**
 - 2 hours
 - Nose-only
 - Characterisation (mass, number, size distribution, sulphate, nitrate, XRF, EC/OC, volatile organic components)
- Effect assessment
 - 4, 18, 24, 48, and 72 hours post-exposure
 - Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF), blood, tissues
 - Oxidative stress, inflammation, tissue damage

Rat study: Acute exposure – time series

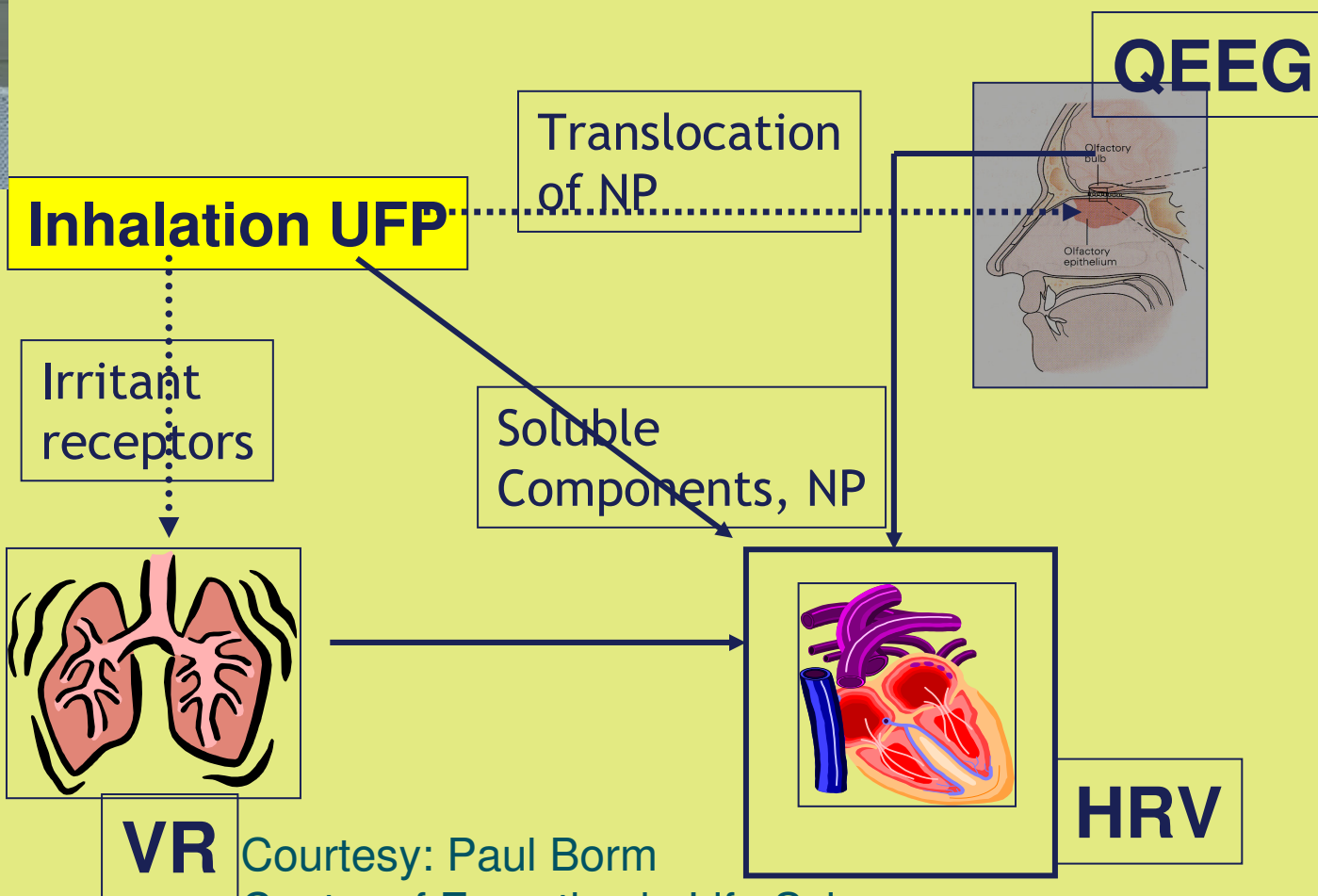
- Investigate the effect of diesel engine exhaust particles on oxidative stress markers in a time-series study



Rat study: Acute exposure – time series Summary

- Exposure to diesel engine exhaust resulted in a **time-dependent** oxidative stress reaction, followed by an inflammatory response
- Oxidative stress is preceded by a procoagulant reaction in the blood as indicated by concurrent increases in TF activity and the amount of trombin generation

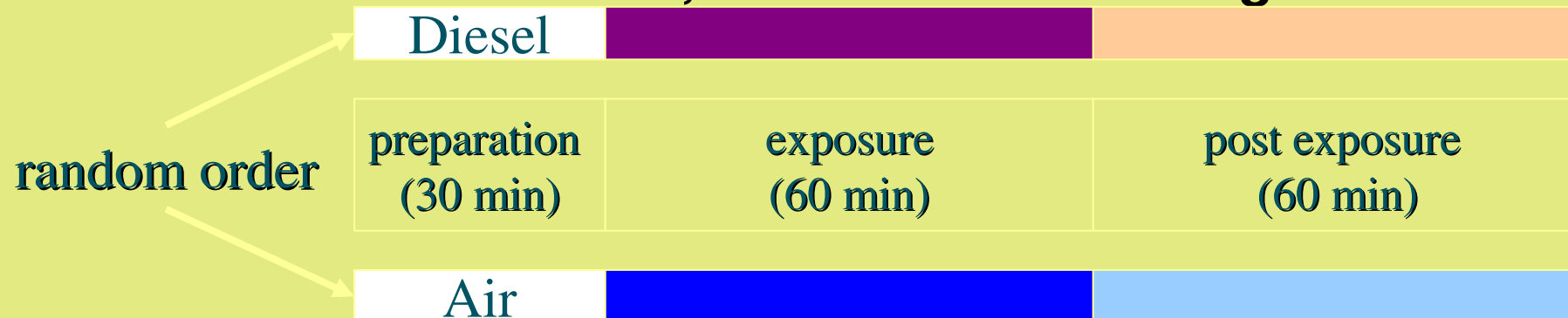
Human volunteers: Acute exposure - QEEG



Courtesy: Paul Borm
Centre of Expertise in Life Sciences
(CEL)

Study in Umea: diesel exhaust (300 ug/m³)

Dr. Thomas Sandström, Dr. Anders Blomberg

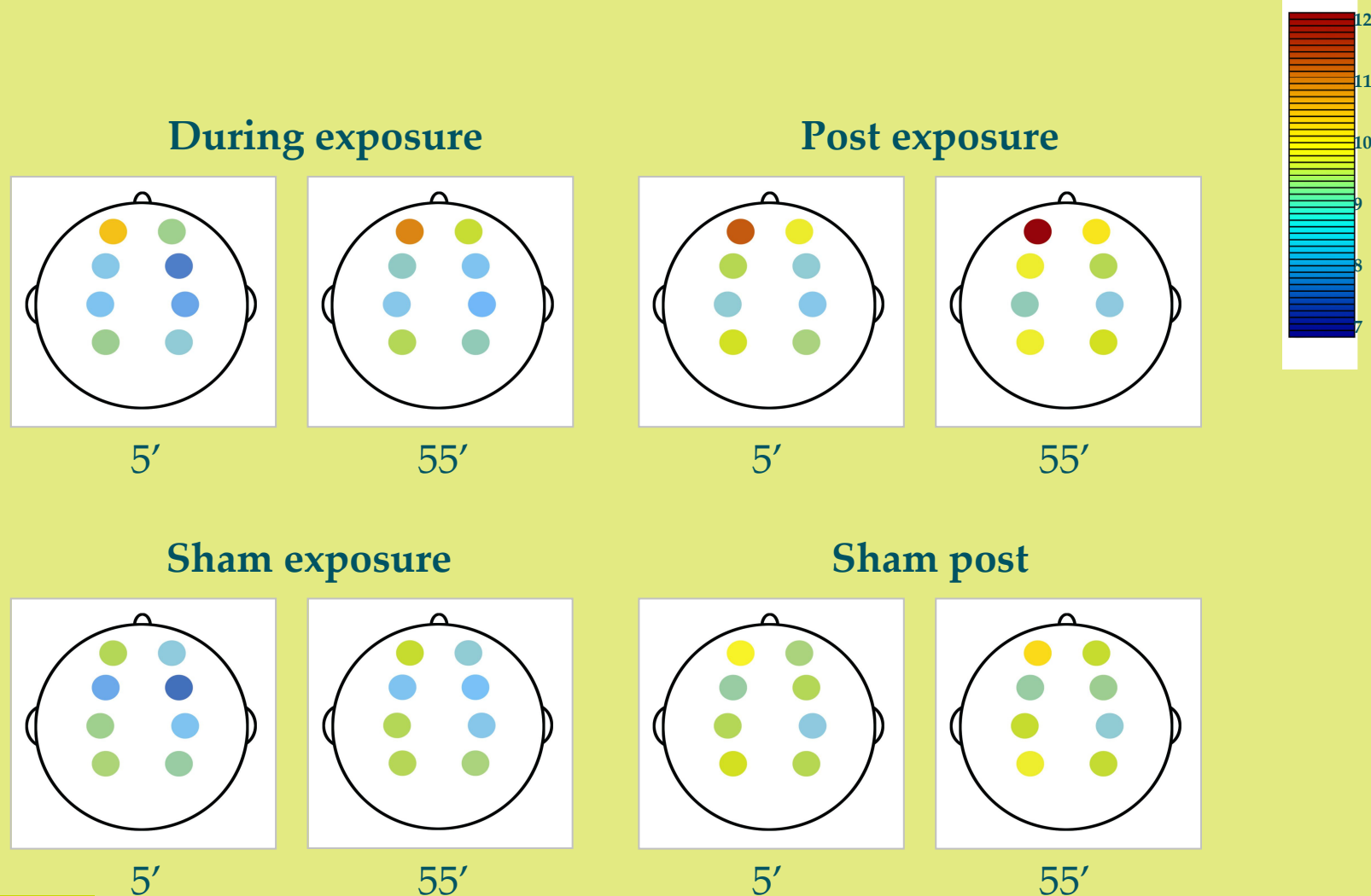


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11th ETH-Conference on Combustion Generated Nanoparticles, 2007
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Effect of diesel engine exhaust on brain function



Human volunteers: Acute exposure – QEEG Summary

- Exposure to diesel engine exhaust influences brain activity
- Physiological meaning however in this context largely unknown

Conclusions

- Automotive emission cannot only cause pulmonary but also systemic effects. The cardiovascular system and the blood are important targets, and also the brain may be directly affected
- The toxicity may not only be caused by the particles themselves, but can also be caused by chemicals on the surface of particles

Recommendations

- Impact of exhaust aftertreatment devices such as catalyst and particle traps on the toxicity of the complex mixture is largely unknown
- Impact of new (bio)fuels needs to be investigated for the impact on human health and the environment

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