
Health Effects of Ultrafines: Why Solid Particles have highest Priority

a Presentation by J. Schiltknecht MD



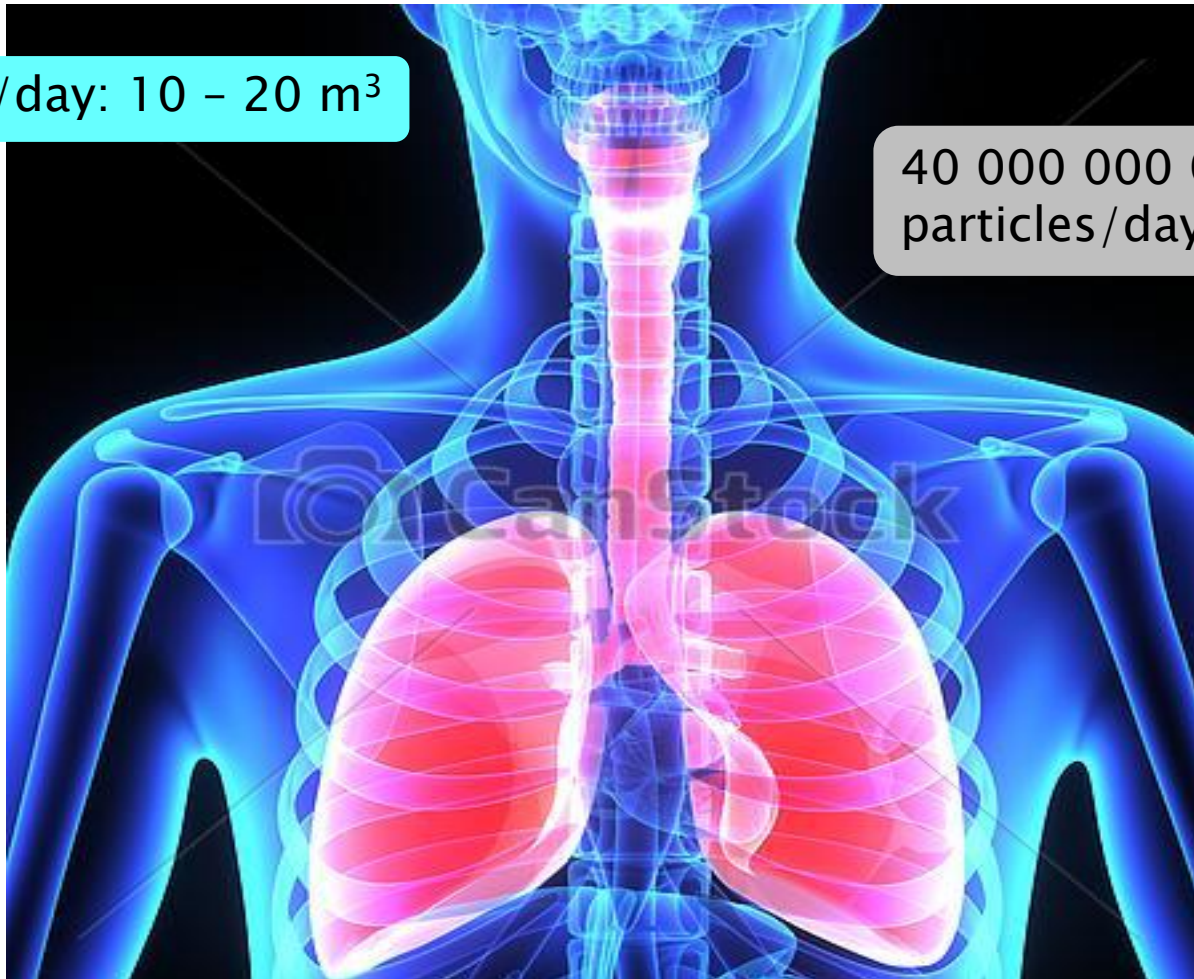
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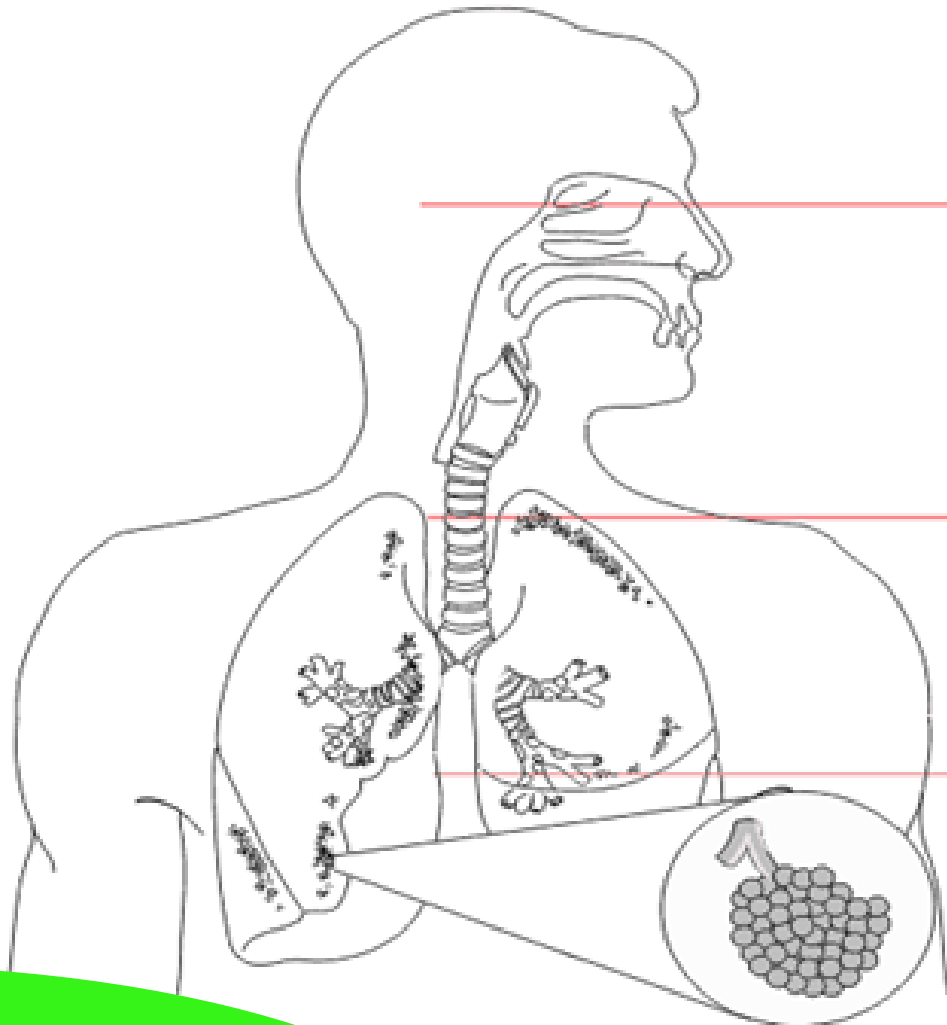
Lung Performance

Air volume/day: 10 – 20 m³

40 000 000 000
particles/day



Airways



Upper Airways

Trachea

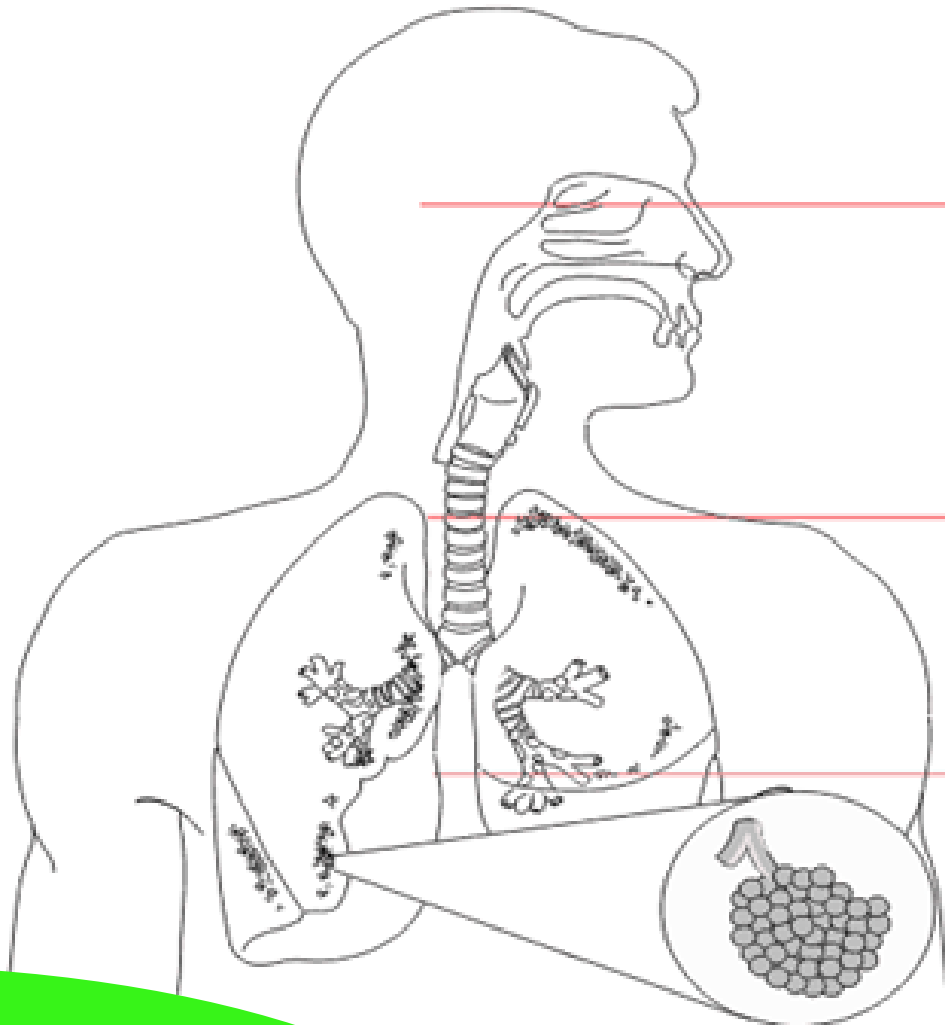
Bronchi

Bronchioles

Alveoli

P. Straehl, BAFU, Abt. Luftreinhaltung und NIS

Airways & Particle Uptake



Upper Airways 5–10 μm

Trachea 3–5 μm

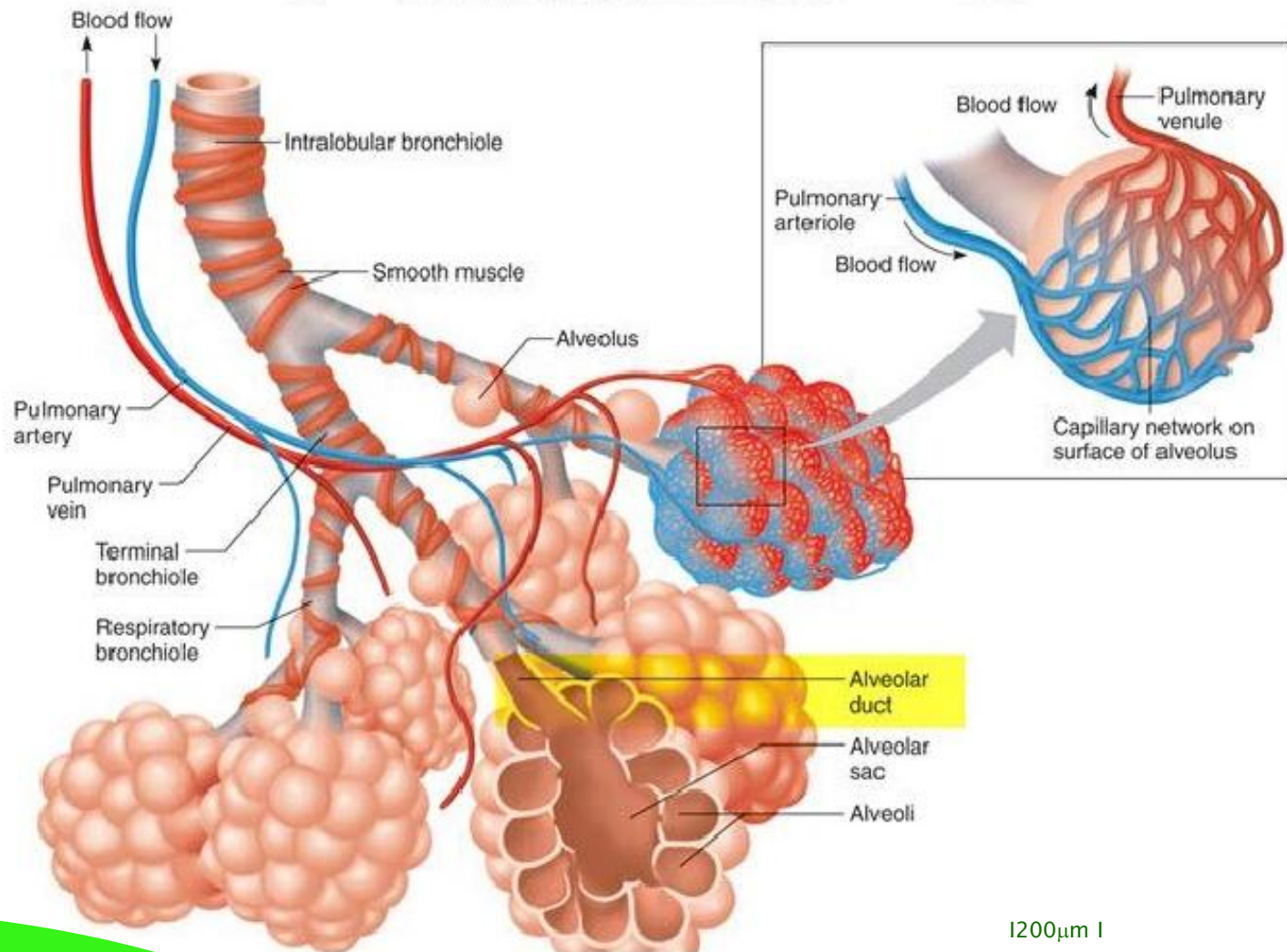
Bronchi 2–3 μm

Bronchioles 1–2 μm

Alveoli <1 μm

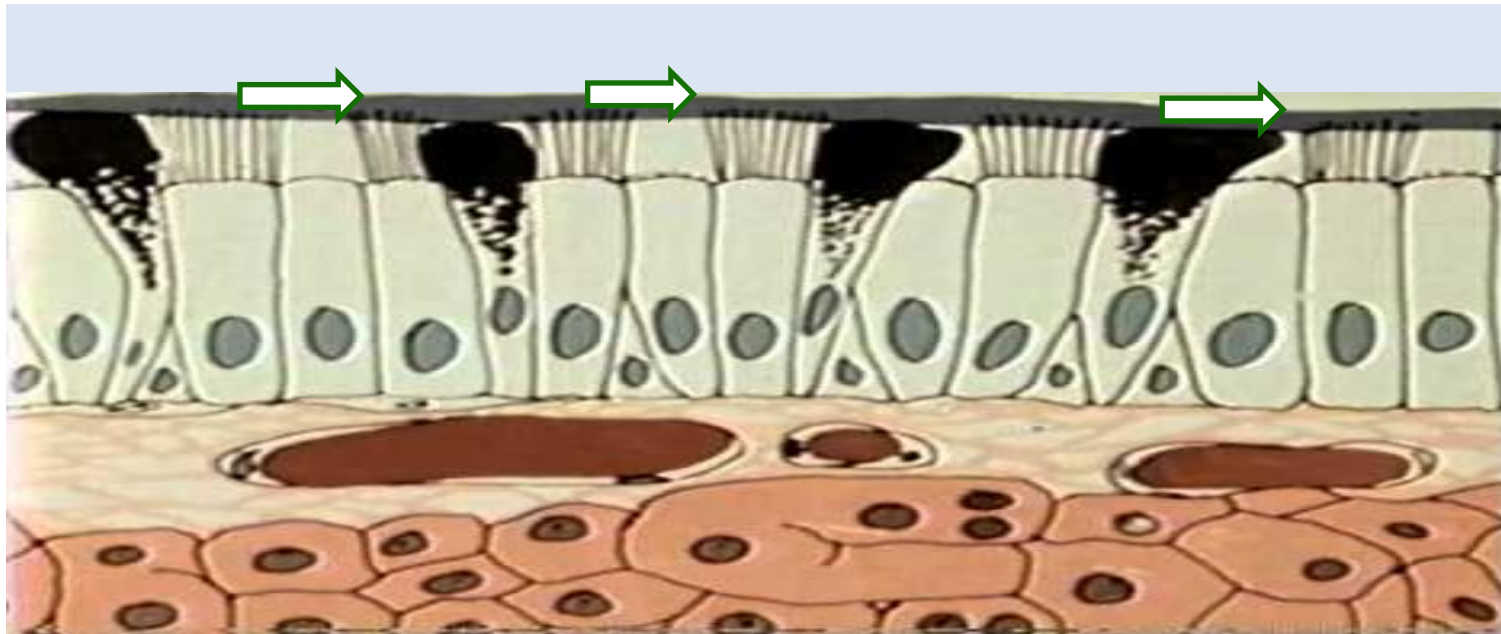
P. Straehl, BAFU, Abt. Luftreinhaltung und NIS

Terminal Bronchioli & Alveoli



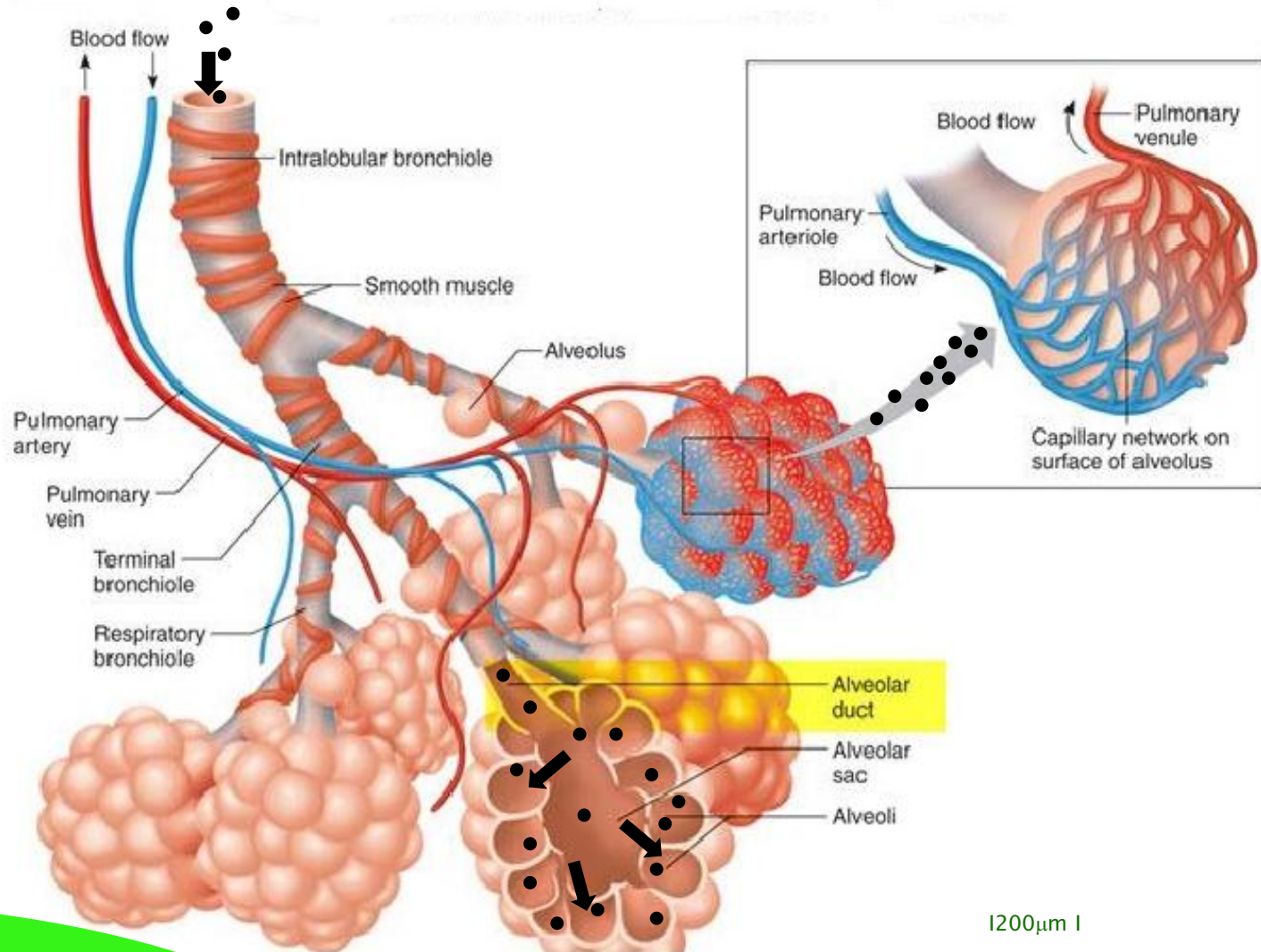
1200µm |

Mucociliary Apparatus

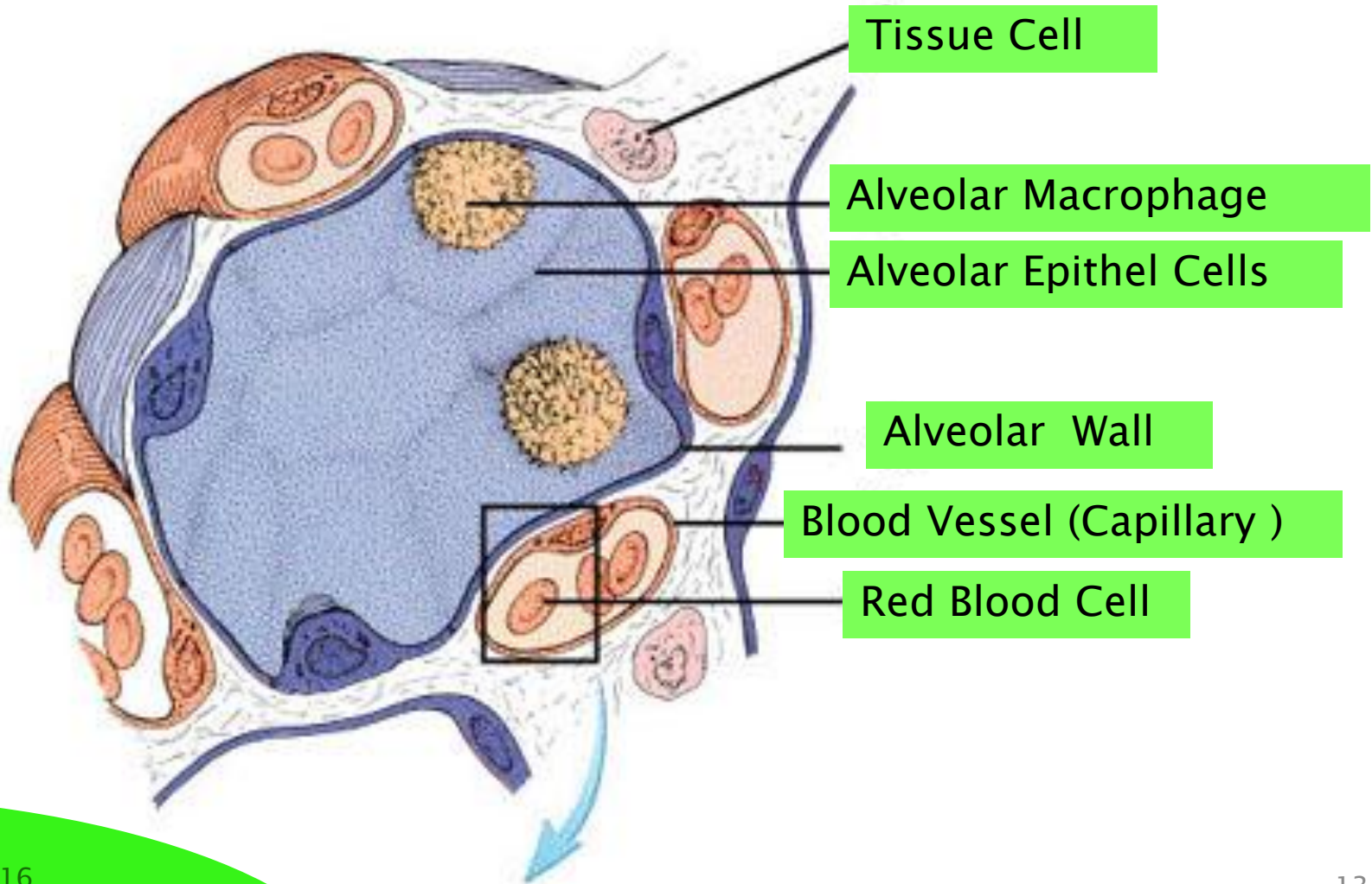


Section of a bronchial wall with ciliated cells transporting a mucus layer and goblet cells

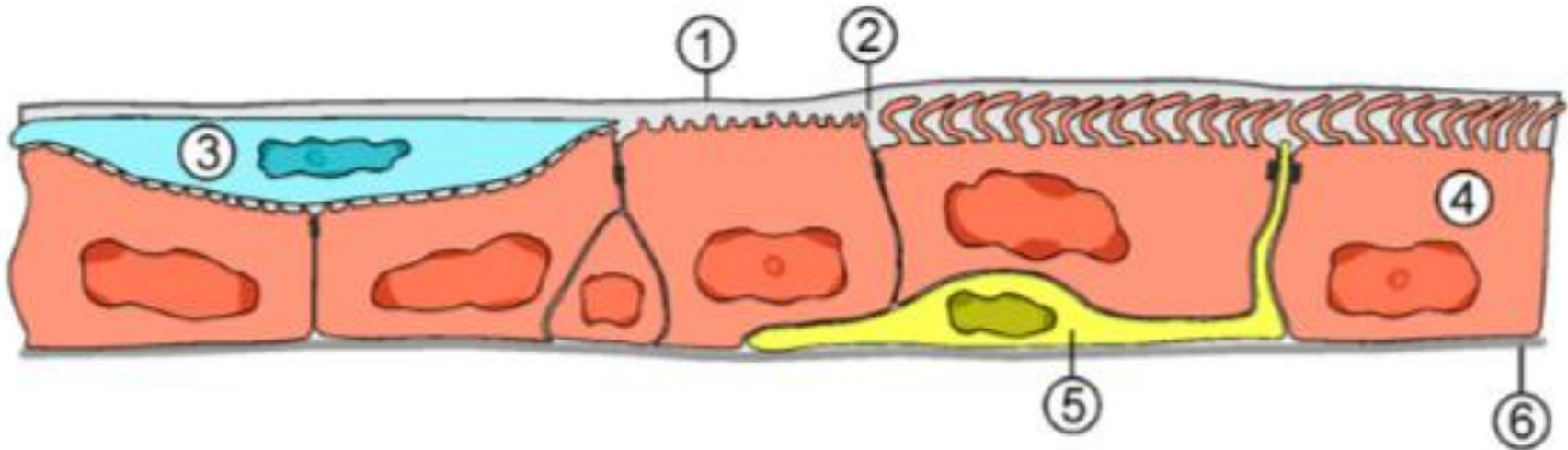
Nanoparticles entering Alveoli



Alveoli surrounded by Capillaries

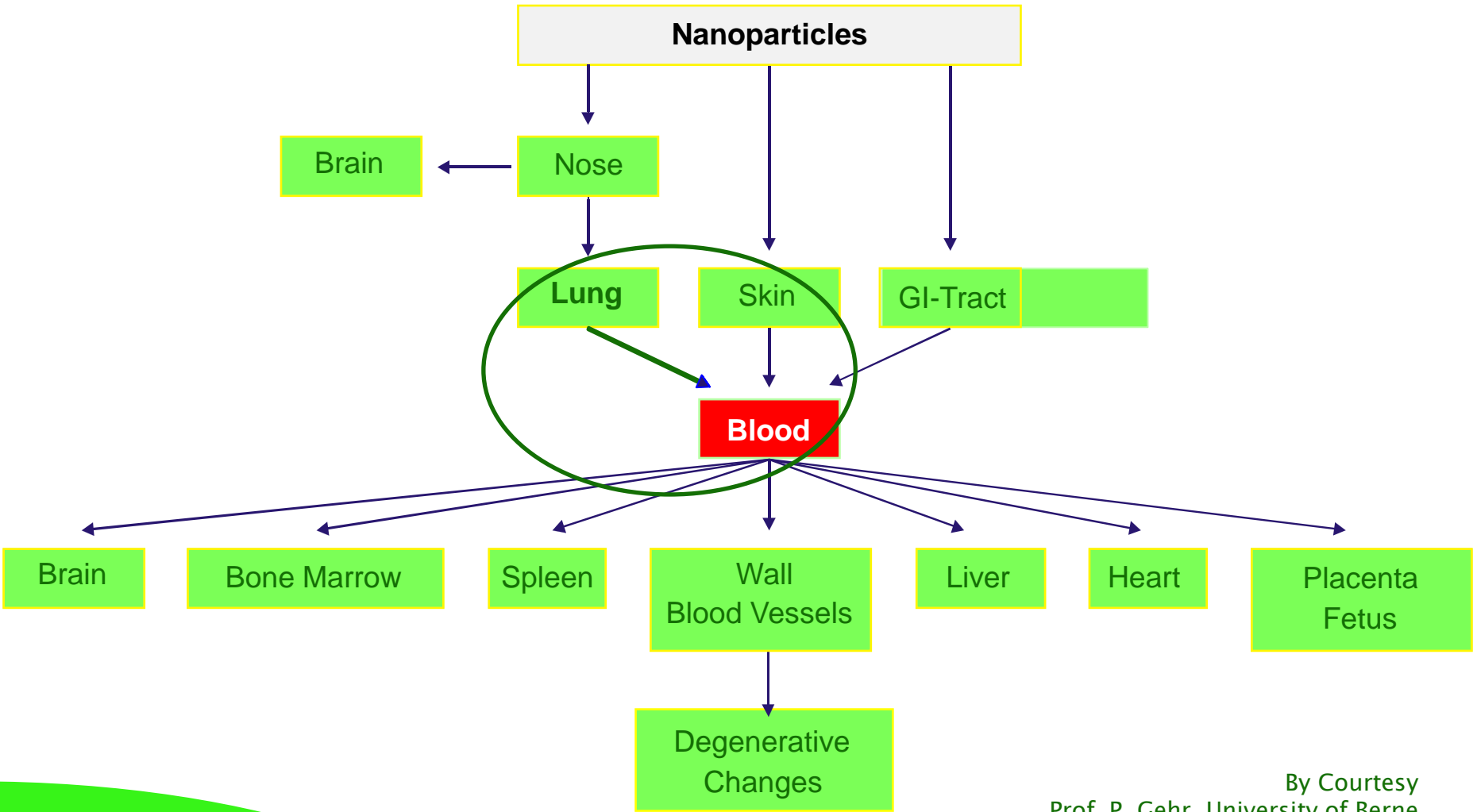


Airway Macrophage



- 1 Surfactant film
- 2 Aqueous surface lining layer
- 3 Macrophages
- 4 Epithelium
- 5 Dendritic Cells

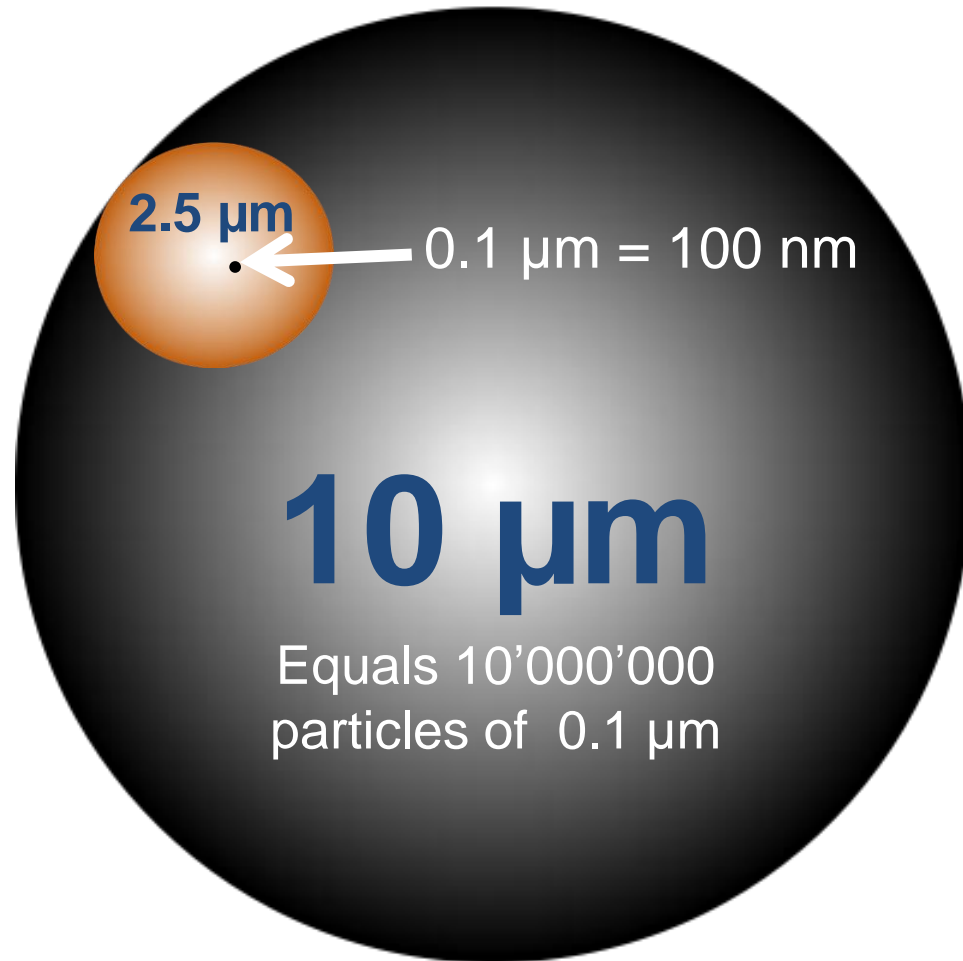
Translocation of Nanoparticles



By Courtesy
Prof. P. Gehr, University of Berne

Size, Dynamics, Toxicity

- Size



Size, Dynamics, Toxicity

- Size
- Persistence

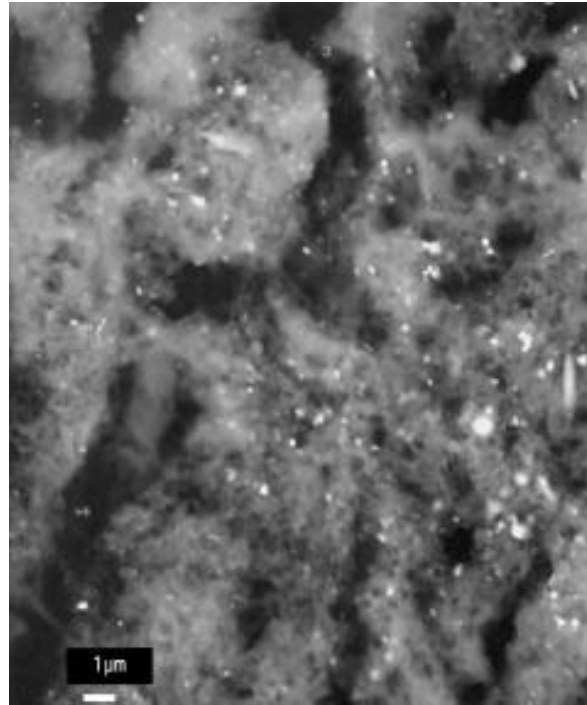


Figure 2. BE micrograph of section of airway aggregate from case 2 revealing abundant sub-micrometer inorganic (bright) particles.

Lung Tissue
1952 London Smog Autopsy
Multiple Nanoparticles

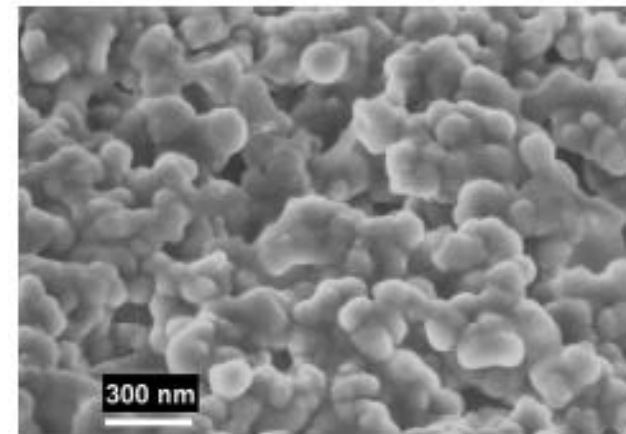
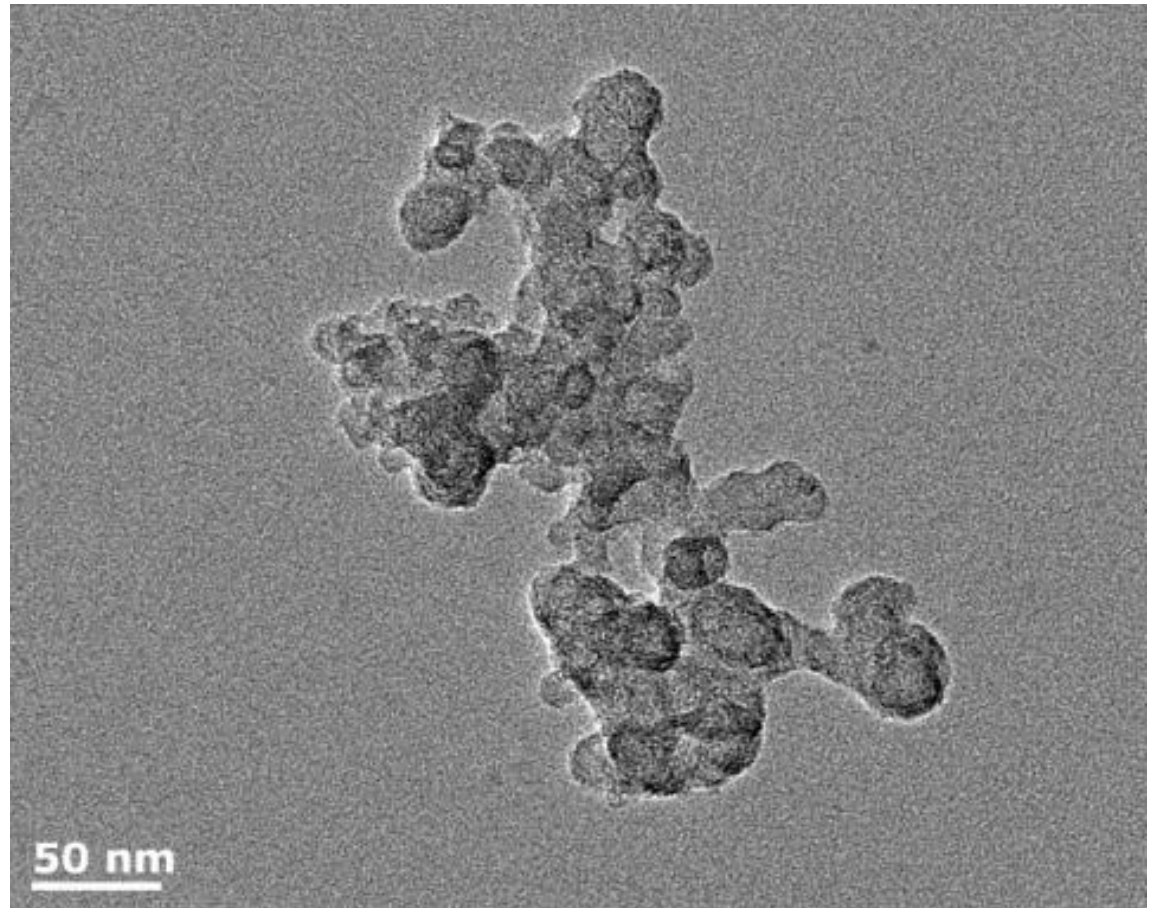


Figure 3. High-magnification field emission scanning electron micrograph of airway aggregate from case 2 showing ultrafine PM structure.

Size, Dynamics, Toxicity

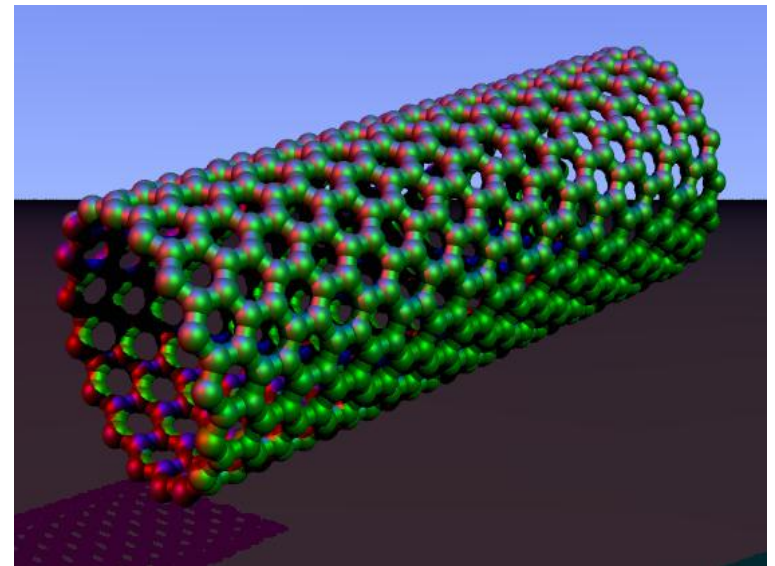
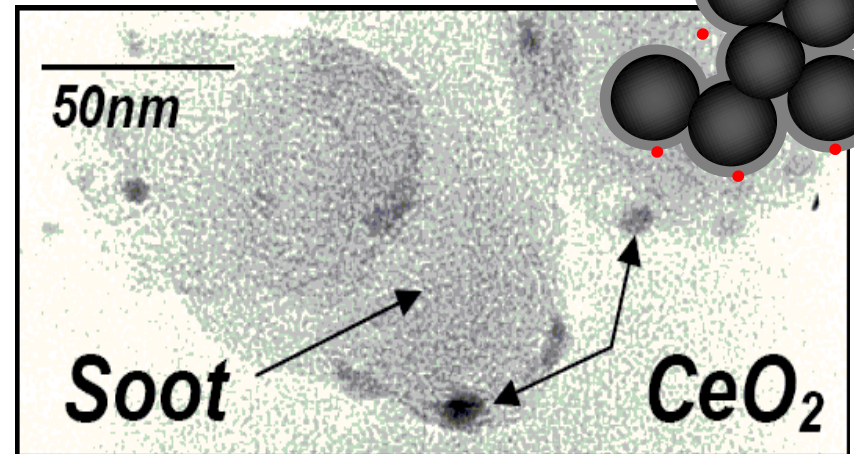
- Size
- Persistence
- Surface



Soot Particle, transmission electronic microscopy
De la Roca, University of Nottingham

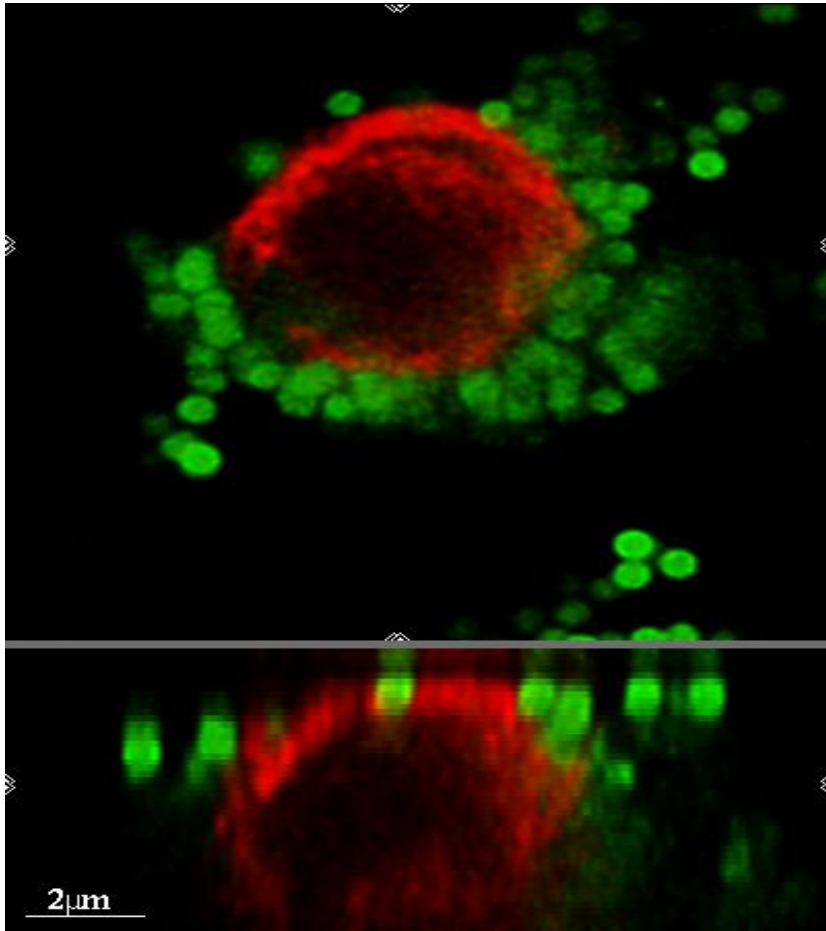
Size, Dynamics, Toxicity

- Size
- Persistence
- Surface
- Chemical Composition & Structure

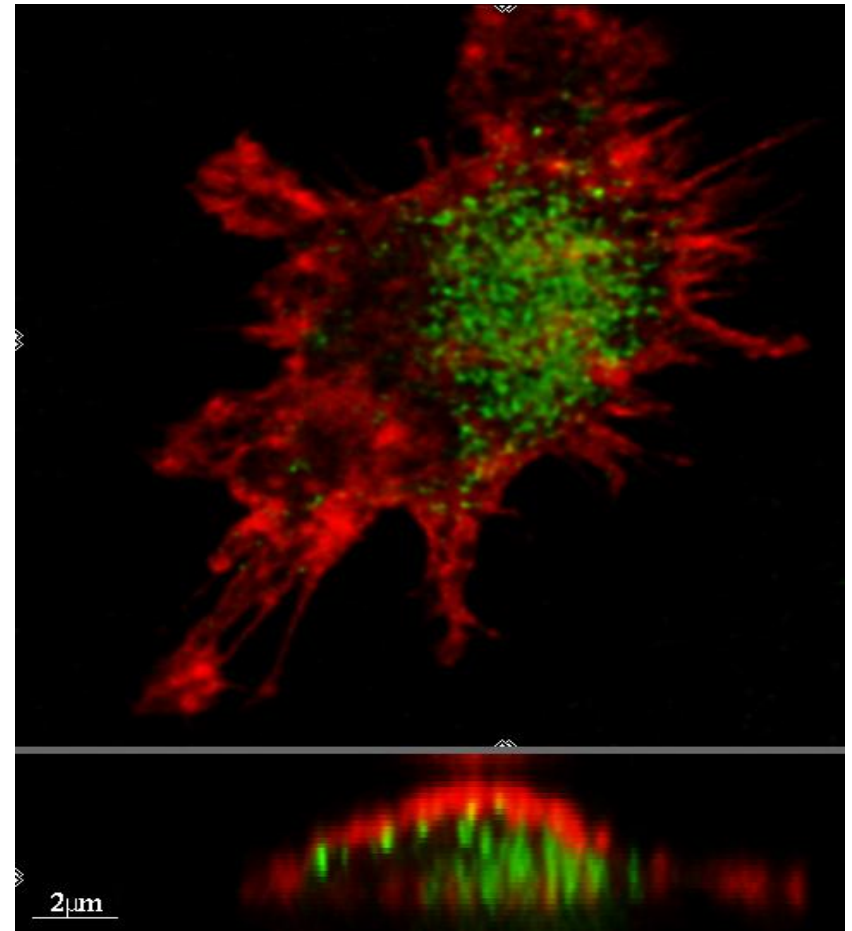


Uptake of Particles and Size

Polystyrene Particles 1000 nm

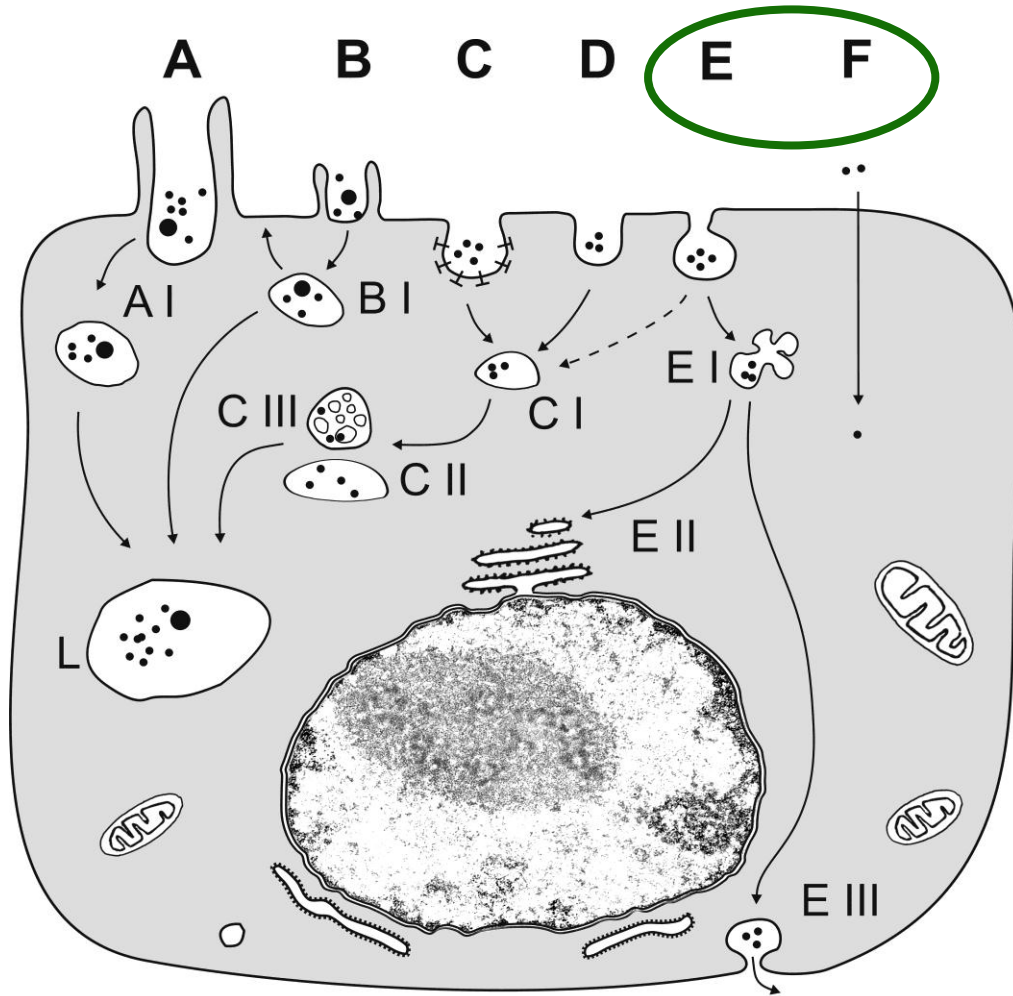


Polystyrene Particles 78 nm



Courtesy B. Rothen- Rutishauser
University of Fribourg

Cellular Uptake of Nanoparticles



E: Caveolae-mediated Endocytosis

F: Adhesive interaction (Entering)

Reactions of Cells to (atmospheric) Noxes (simplified)

Inflammatory Response

Oxydative Stress

Dysfunction
Damage

Genetic Impairment
Cancer

Chronic Illness

Death

Most Important Air Pollution Related Disease

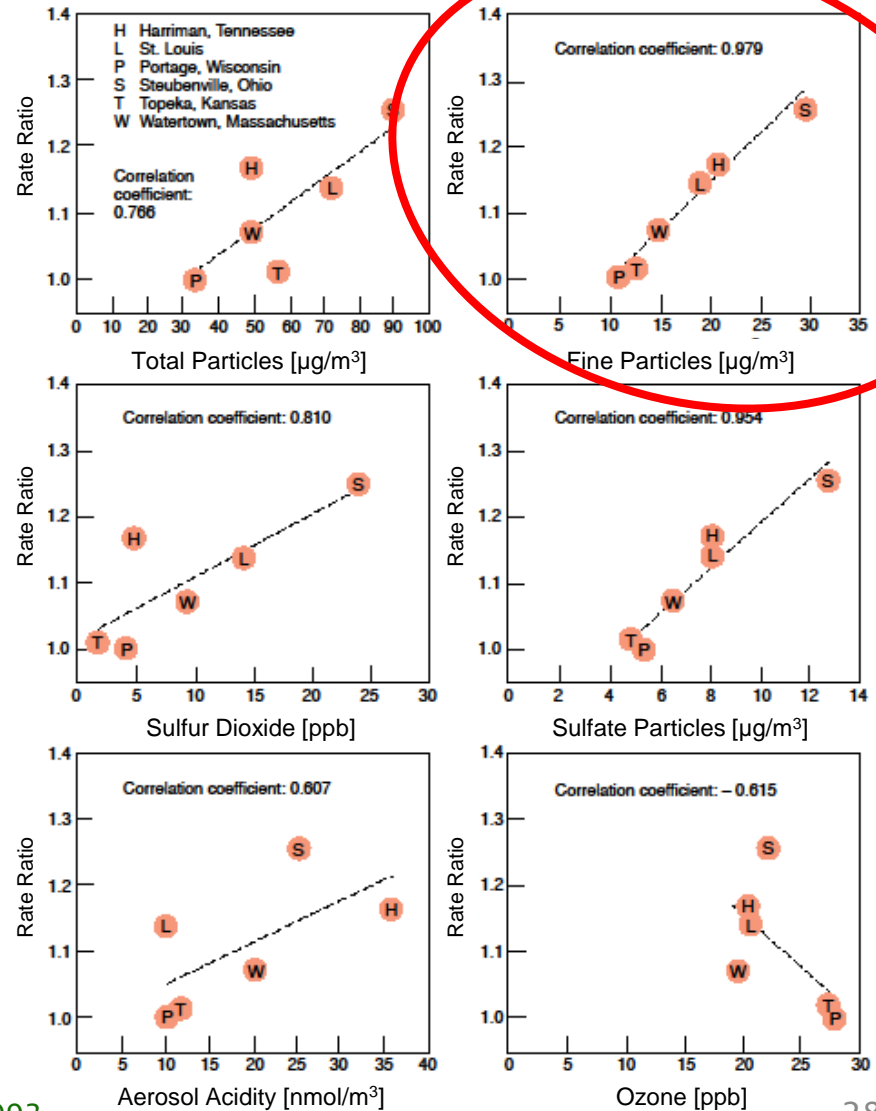
- Ischemic Heart Disease IHD
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease COPD
- Cerebrovascular Disease CEV
- Acute Lower Respiratory Disease ALRI
- Lung Cancer LC

6-Cities Study

Which TOC correlates to Mortality?

6-Cities-Study
USA 1978-93
15'000 cases

→ Correlation with Fine Particles only



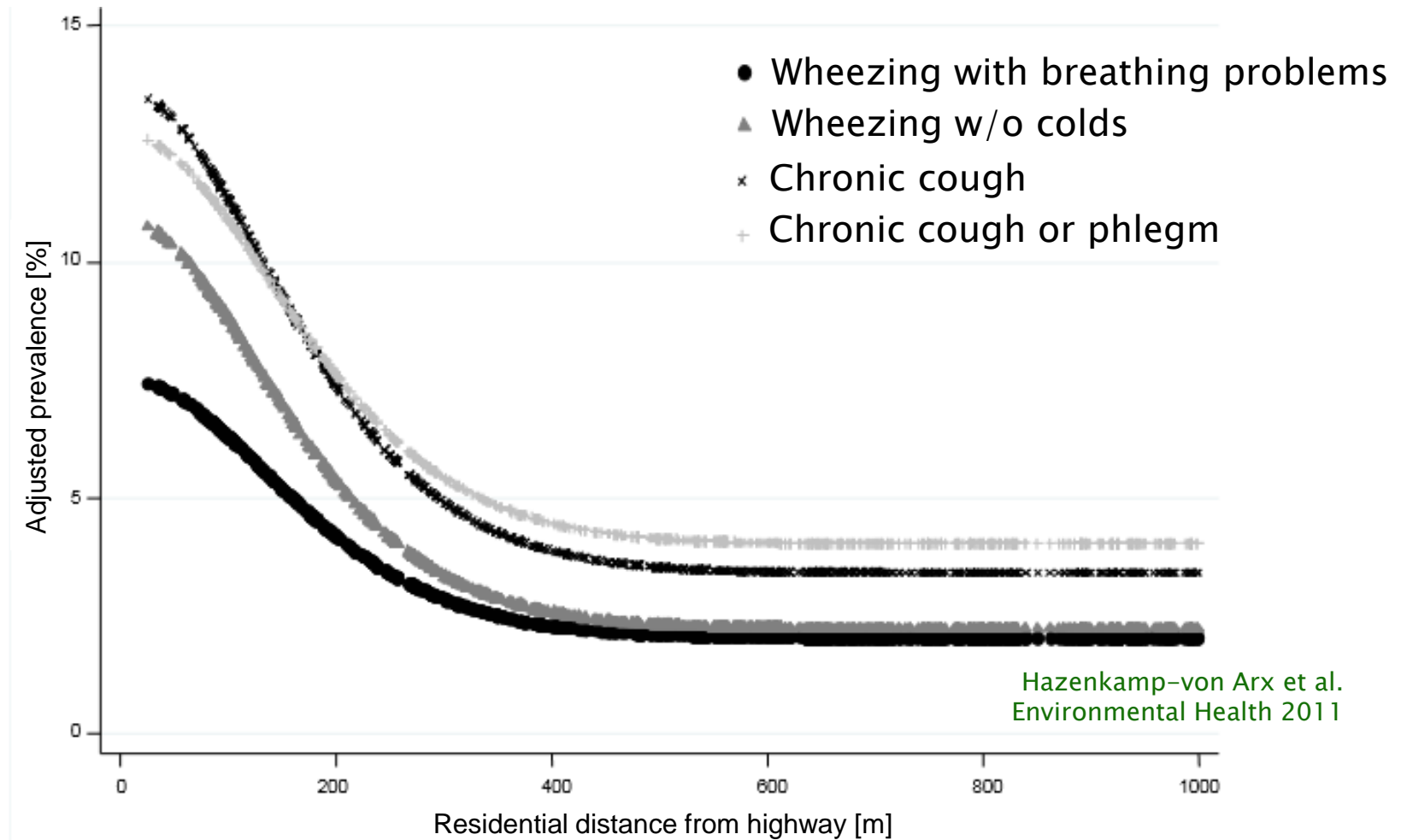
Increase of Respiratory Symptoms near Highways



Figure 1 Study area. Map of Switzerland with the 10 study communities. The inset shows the topography in Erstfeld having a width of 800 m at the bottom of the valley.

Hazenkamp-von Arx et al.
Environmental Health 2011

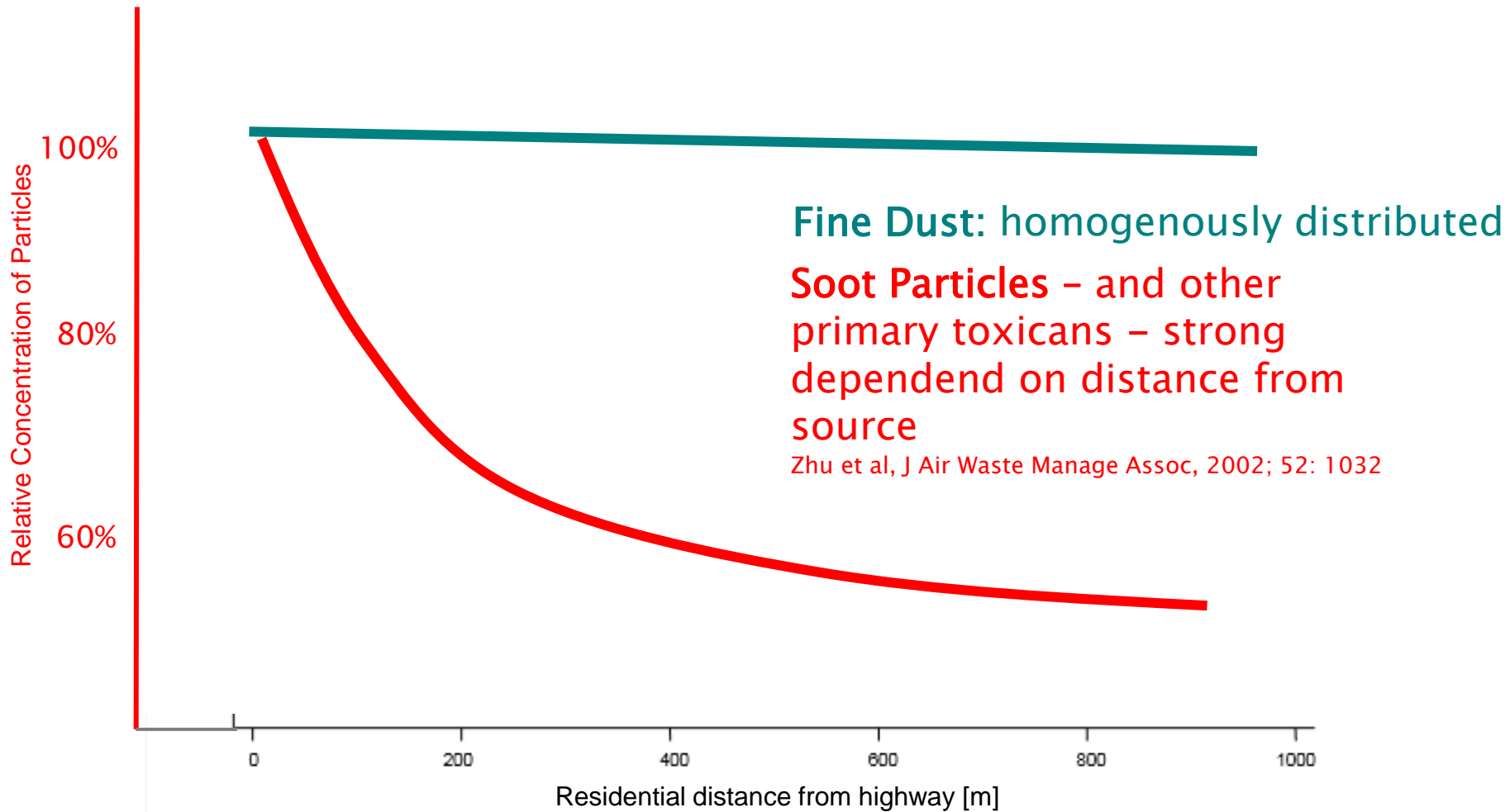
Distance to Heavy Traffic Highways (HTH) and Respiratory Symptoms



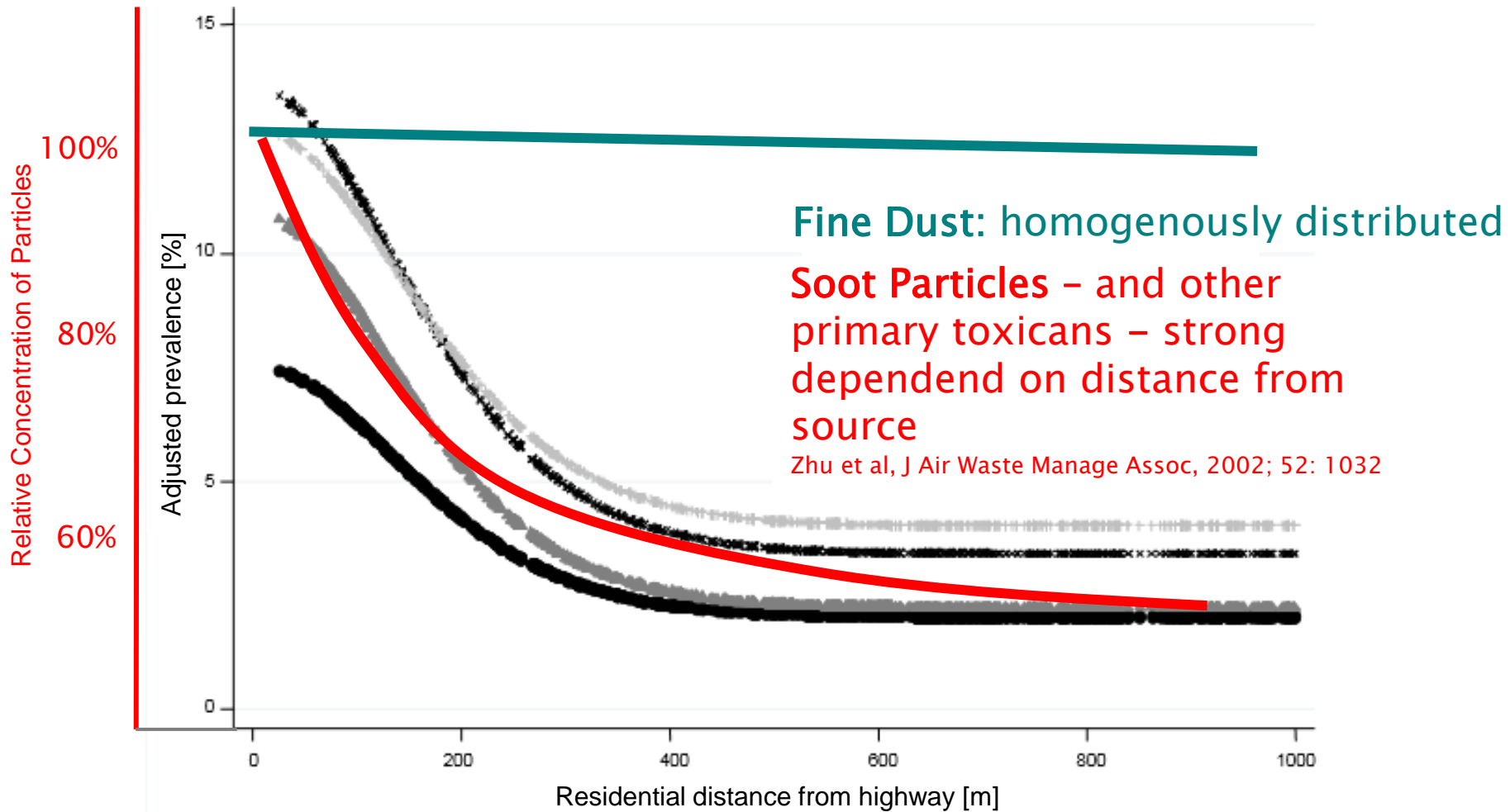
Hazenkamp-von Arx et al.
Environmental Health 2011

Estimated adjusted prevalence rates of health outcomes

Distance to HTH and Particle Distribution

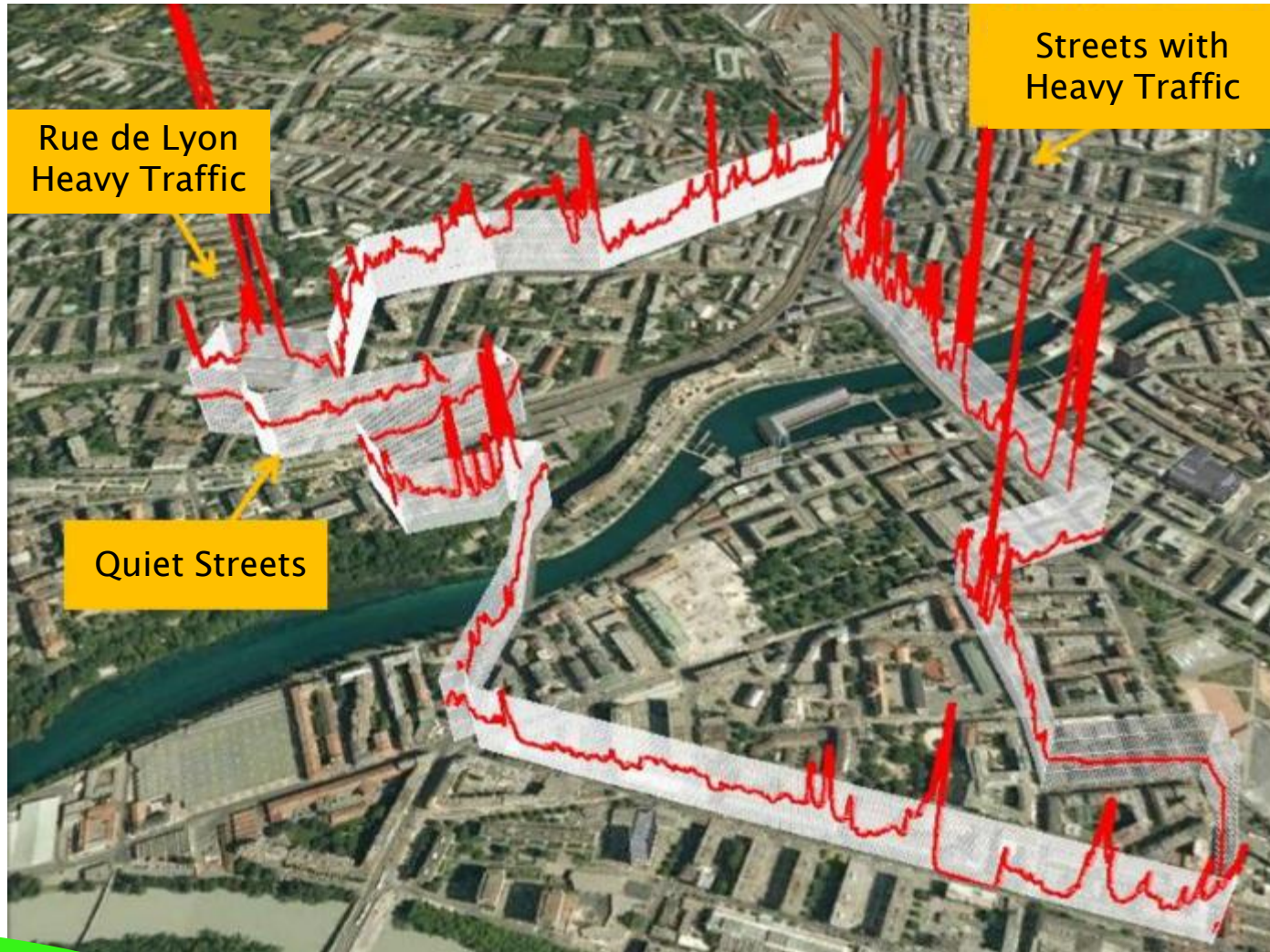


Ultrafine Particle Distribution and Health Symptoms match!



Nino Künzli
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute

Particle Number Concentration 10–300 nm



Ultrafine Particle Concentration Geneva February 26th 2012
Particle Number Concentration (red) and Time (grey grid)
Diagramm on Google Earth Mapping

Traffic Emission Abatement

Berlin LEZ: traffic emissions
reduced by 50 % but PM10 by <5 %

London "Pea Soup" Smog 1952



Picadilly Sqare, Unknown Photographer

Premature Mortality p.a. related to PM 2.5 and Ozon Estimate for Urban Population of 100 Million People

• Heart	IHD	15.000
• Lung	COPD	12.000
• Brain	CEV	8.000
• Lung Infections	ALRI	5.000 Children!
• Cancer	LC	2.000

Effect of Air Pollution During Pregnancy

PM ↑ during Pregnancy

→ Increased **Respiratory** need
of the Newborn

2009 Philipp Latzin, Bern University Childrens Hospital

**Lifelong impairment of the Lung
seems possible!**

Baraldi & Filipone NEJM 2007

WHO OECD Report

Economic Cost of the Health Impact of air pollution in Europe



Soot free Tehran!