



## PARKINSON'S DISEASE NEWS

<http://www.viartis.net/parkinsons.disease/news.htm>

4th June 2017 - New research

### AIR POLLUTION INCREASES THE RISK OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Researchers investigated the effects of air pollution on the risk of Parkinson's Disease. They primarily assessed atmospheric particulate matter (PM), which are solid or liquid matter that is suspended in the atmosphere. Sources of particulate matter can be man-made or natural, and can very adversely affect human health. It includes particles such as dust, pollen, soot, smoke, and liquid droplets. Also assessed was nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), which is a prominent air pollutant. Nitrogen dioxide is formed during the industrial synthesis of nitric acid, millions of tons of which are produced each year.



No statistically significant association was observed overall for particulate matter (PM) or nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) exposures and the risk of Parkinson's Disease. However, a relationship was observed when the size of the particles was considered. A higher risk of Parkinson's Disease (1.65 times greater) was associated with higher exposure to larger particles (PM<sub>10</sub>). A higher risk of Parkinson's Disease (1.29 times) was also associated with exposure to smaller particles (PM<sub>2.5</sub>). Women were more affected than men.

Consequently, pollution, especially larger particles, is the cause of a moderate increase in the risk of Parkinson's Disease. The could be higher when the exposures to pollution are more intense or more prolonged.

Reference : Environmental Health Perspectives [2016] 124 (11) : 1759-1765 (R.Liu, M.T. Young, J.C.Chen, J.D.Kaufman, H.Chen)

Complete abstract : <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/27285422>

<http://www.viartis.net/parkinsons.disease/news/170604.pdf>

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