

# Diesel particle deposition in the airways and the induction of inflammation.



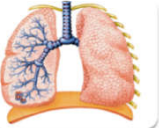



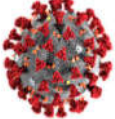
By: Sandra Dorman, PhD  
Director, Full Professor  
Centre for Research in  
Occupational Safety & Health

October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020



## The Air We Breathe



	Airway Anatomy / Function
	Particle Deposition
	Particle Clearance
	Inflammation, Chronic Inflammation, and disease
	COVID 19

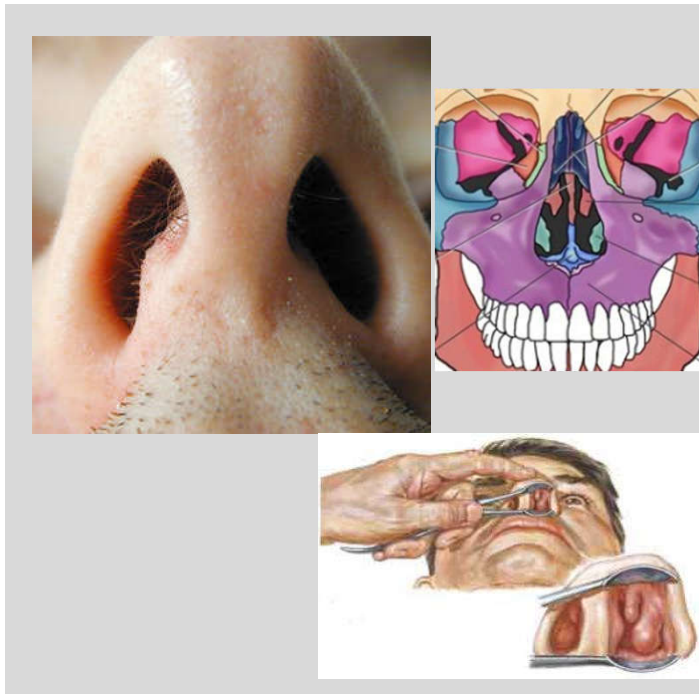


# Airway Anatomy



## The Nose

Filter  
Exercise



## The Lungs

23 branching  
generations

0-8 trachea and  
bronchi

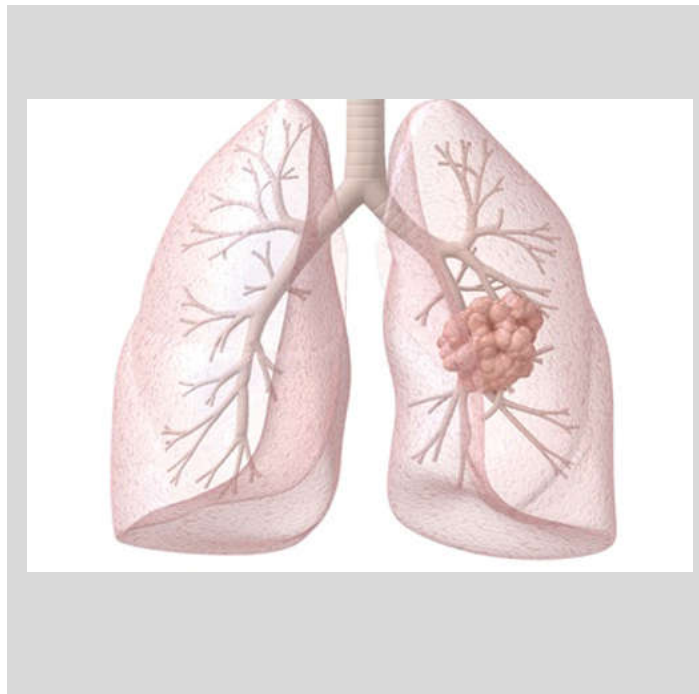
- Conduction

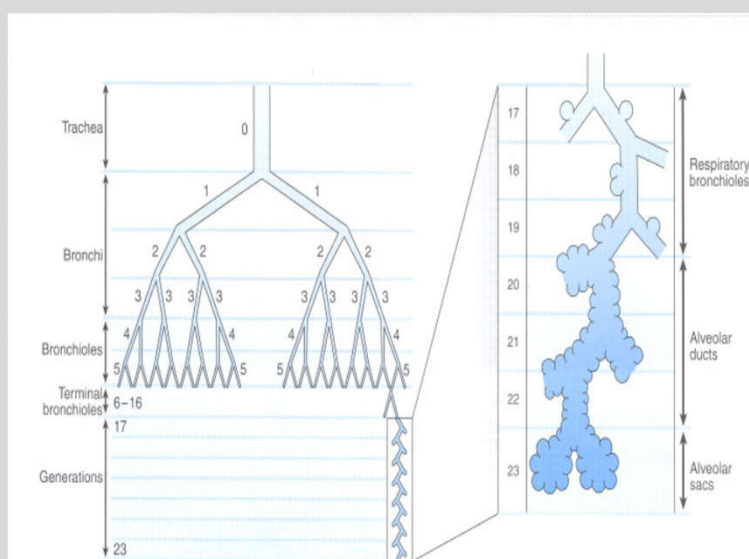
9-16 bronchioles

- Conduction &  
Diffusion

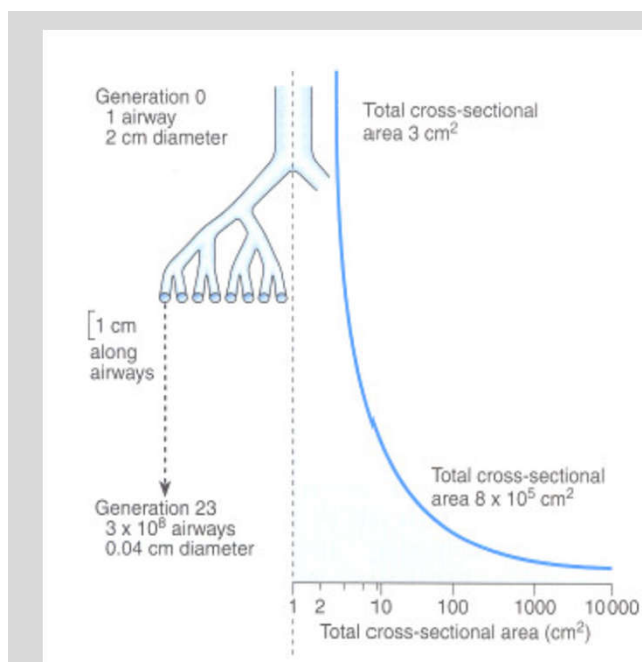
16-23

- Alveolar region  
diffusion





Weibel lung model 1963

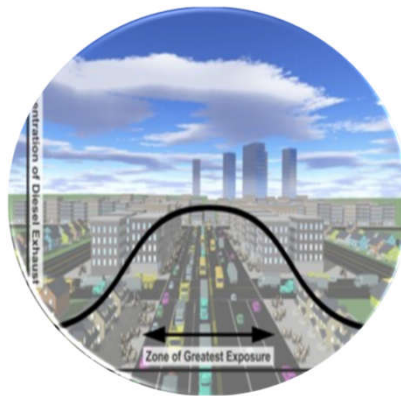


The Respiratory System. Davies and Moore (2003) Elsevier press





# Particle Deposition





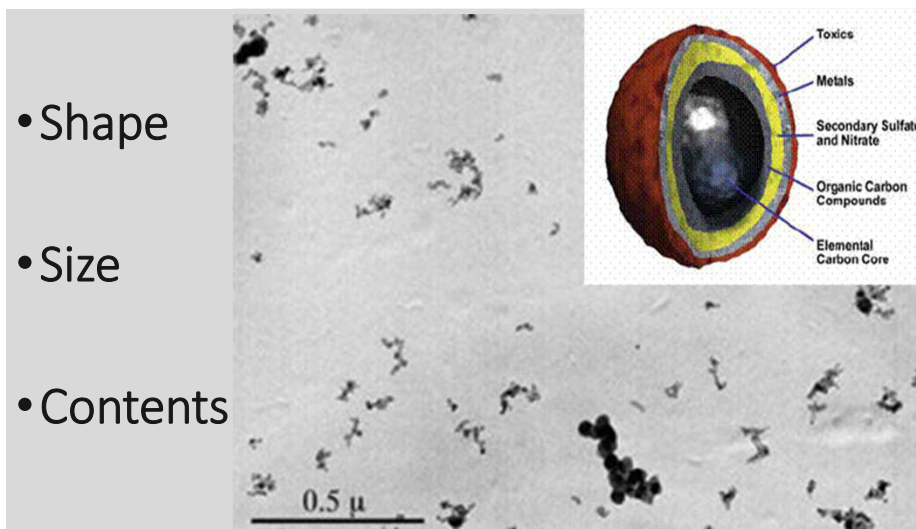
# Mechanisms of Deposition

- Physical and chemical characteristics of the particle
- Properties of the particle kinetics in air
- Biological factors



## Physical/Chemical Properties

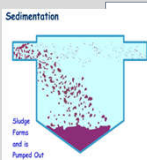
- Shape
- Size
- Contents



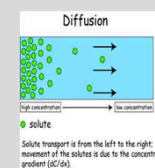
# Particle Kinetics & Deposition



Impact



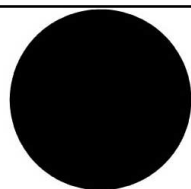
Sedimentation



Diffusion



## Particle size



— 150 Microns — Average Human Hair



— 25 Microns — Lint, Particles Visible to the Naked Eye



— 10 Microns — Heavy Dust, Lint, Fertilizer, Pollen



— 5 - 10 Microns — Average Dust, Plant Spores, Mold



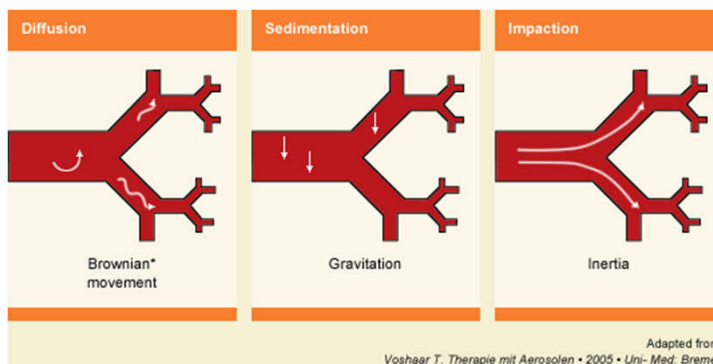
— 1 - 5 Microns — Bacteria, Light Dust, Animal Dander



— 0.3 - 1 Microns — Bacteria, Tobacco and Cooking Smoke, Metallic Fumes



— 0.001-0.01 Microns — Viruses



## Particle size

PM = Particulate Matter

Inhalable particles are particles 10µm and smaller

PM<sub>10</sub>: particles with a diameter between 2.5-10µm

PM<sub>2.5</sub>: particles with a diameter between 0.1-2.5µm

Ultrafine: less than 0.1µm

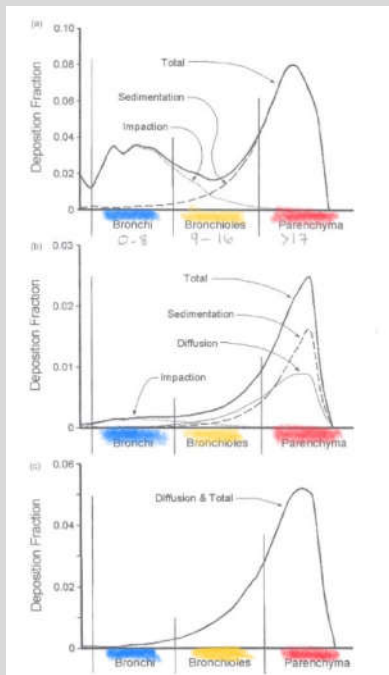
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Particulates>



## Predicted lung Deposition by size

**Smallest particles get into the deepest part of the airways**

Foster & Costa.  
Lung Biology in  
Health and  
Disease, 2005



5µm

1µm

0.1µm



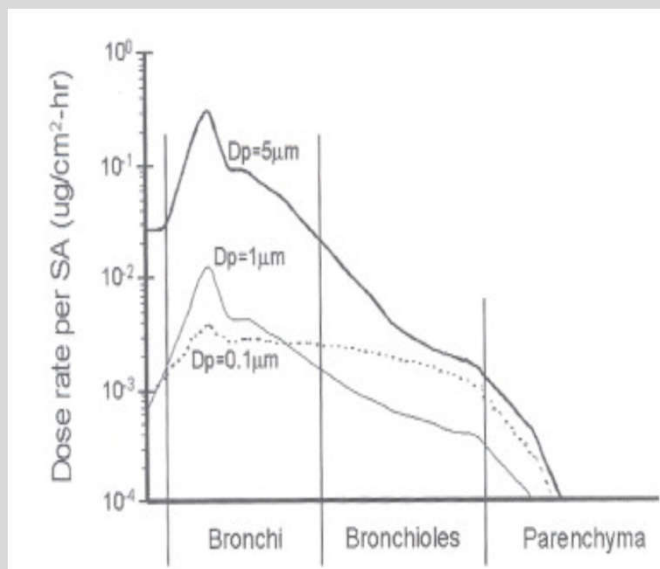
Bronchi 0-8    Bronchioles 9-16    Parenchyma >17



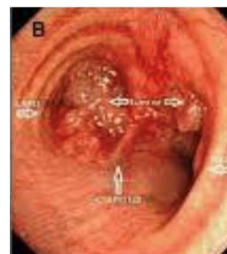
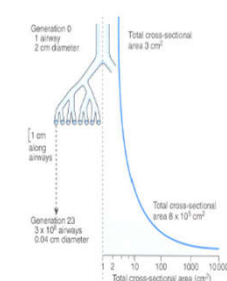


**Deposition by  
size and  
surface area**

**Heavy  
deposition in  
the upper  
airways**



Foster & Costa. Lung Biology in Health and Disease. 2005

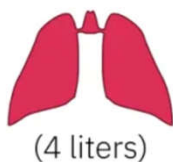


# Biology of individual

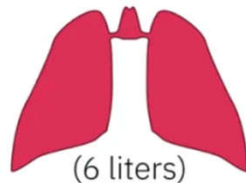
Different people have different lung volumes & breathing rates

EXPOSURE → DOSE → RESPONSE

Female



Male



Deposition increases with:

- increasing volume (larger person = larger volume);
- increased resistance;

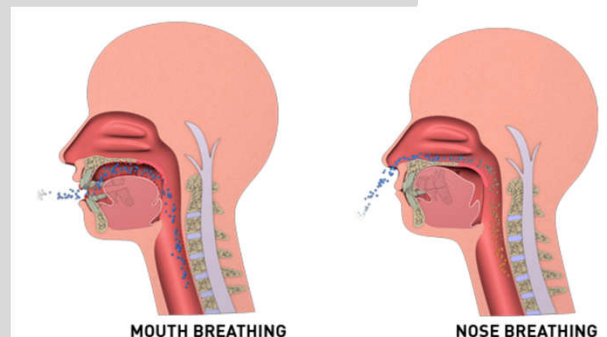


# Effect of Physical Activity

Deposition increases with increases in breathing rate (exercise).

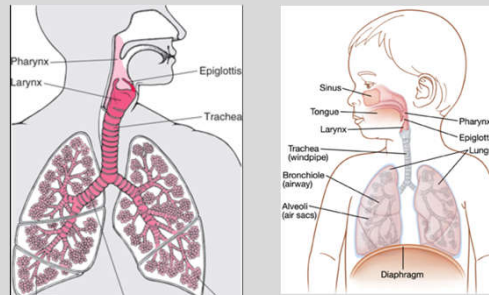
Upper airway deposition increases with increased airway velocity

Nose to mouth breathing is an important aspect



# Gender / Size

- Women have higher depositions per unit in the upper airways
- Men have higher deposition in their lower airways



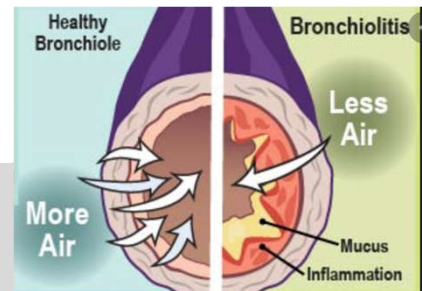
# Age

- Children will have higher upper airway deposition due to anatomical size
- Older adults with normal lung function should have minimal changes in tidal volume and minute ventilation and so should not have altered deposition patterns

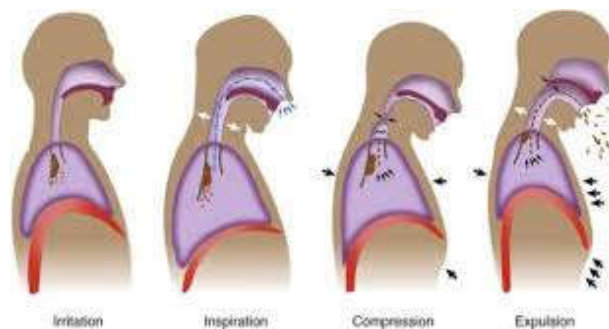


# Lung Disease

- Breathing patterns change with lung disease
- These changes effect total deposition
  - COPD – higher minute ventilation
  - Bronchitis – increased deposition (narrowed airspaces)
  - Asthma – increased deposition
  - Smokers – increased deposition
  - Smokers - with small airways disease



Kin and Kang AJRCCM 1997



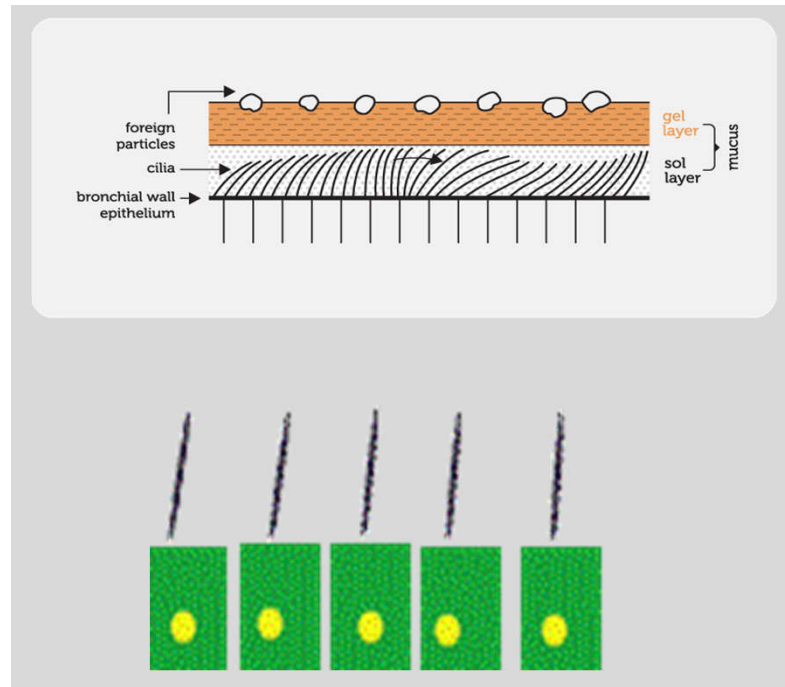
# Particle Clearance



## Two main methods:

### Upper Airways: 1. physical removal

clearance Time:  
~ 2-24 hours



### Lower Airways 2. Absorption

direct  
or via cell  
uptake

clearance Time:  
>24 hours -  
Months





# Clearance Rates

- Location matters
- Size matters
- Total number matters



## Biologic alterations in clearance



Drugs



Age

Immune  
system



Physical  
activity



Lung  
disease



# Other



Smoking



Air  
pollution



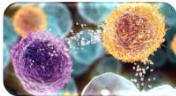
# Inflammation



## Acute Inflammation



A serious threat triggers Inflammation (e.g. cut, infection).

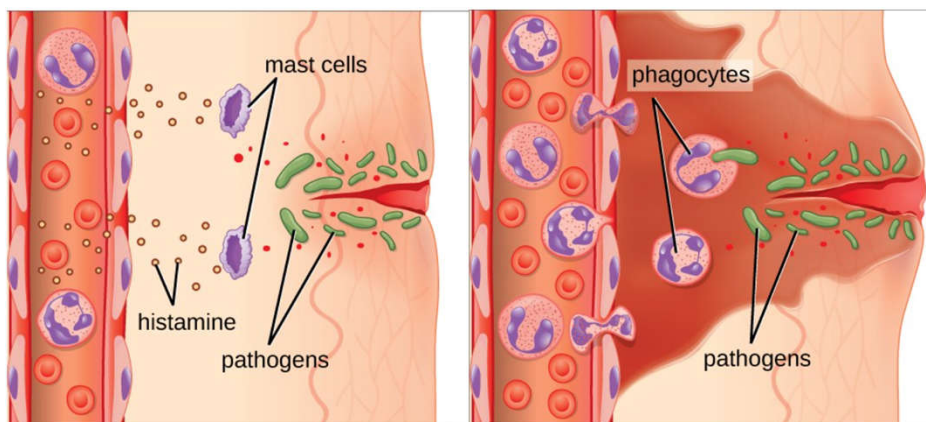


The body releases inflammatory compounds.



The job gets done and anti-inflammatory compounds are released and the body returns to normal.

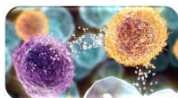
## Acute Inflammation



## Acute Inflammation



A serious threat triggers inflammation (e.g. cut, infection).



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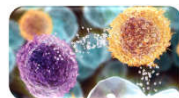


The job gets done and anti-inflammatory compounds are released and the body returns to normal.

## Chronic Inflammation



A repeated event that triggers inflammation (e.g. Diesel particulate, air pollution, smoking, disease).

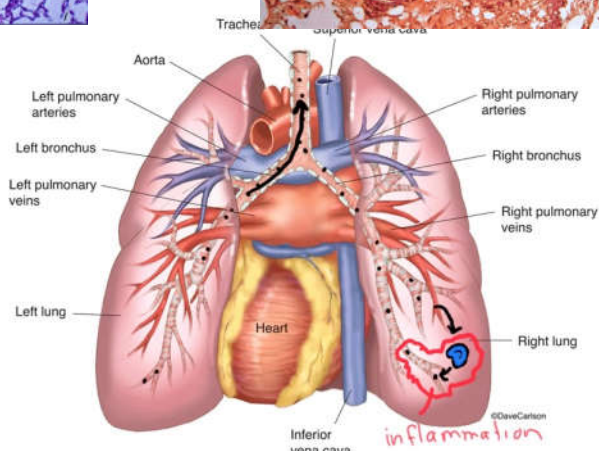
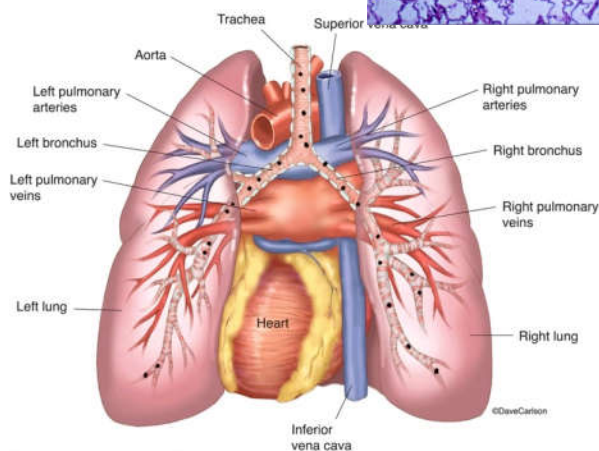
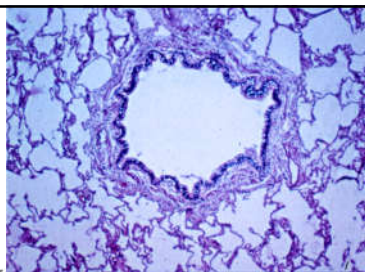


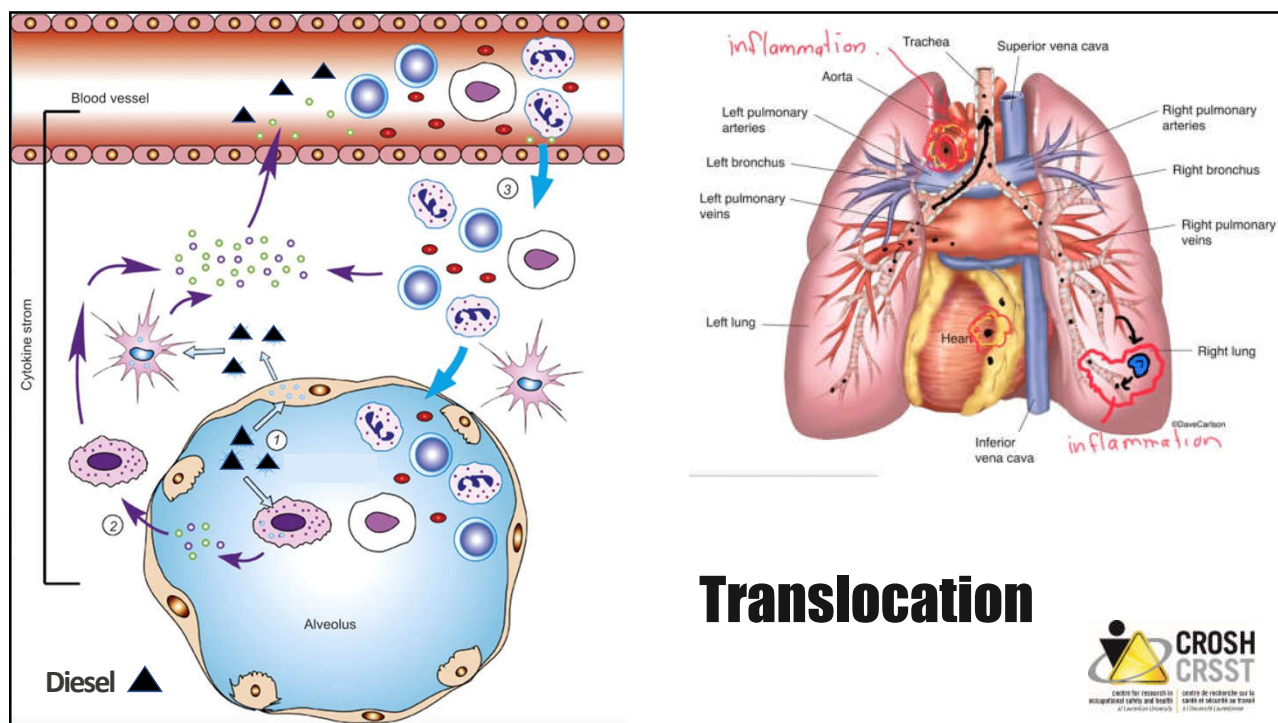
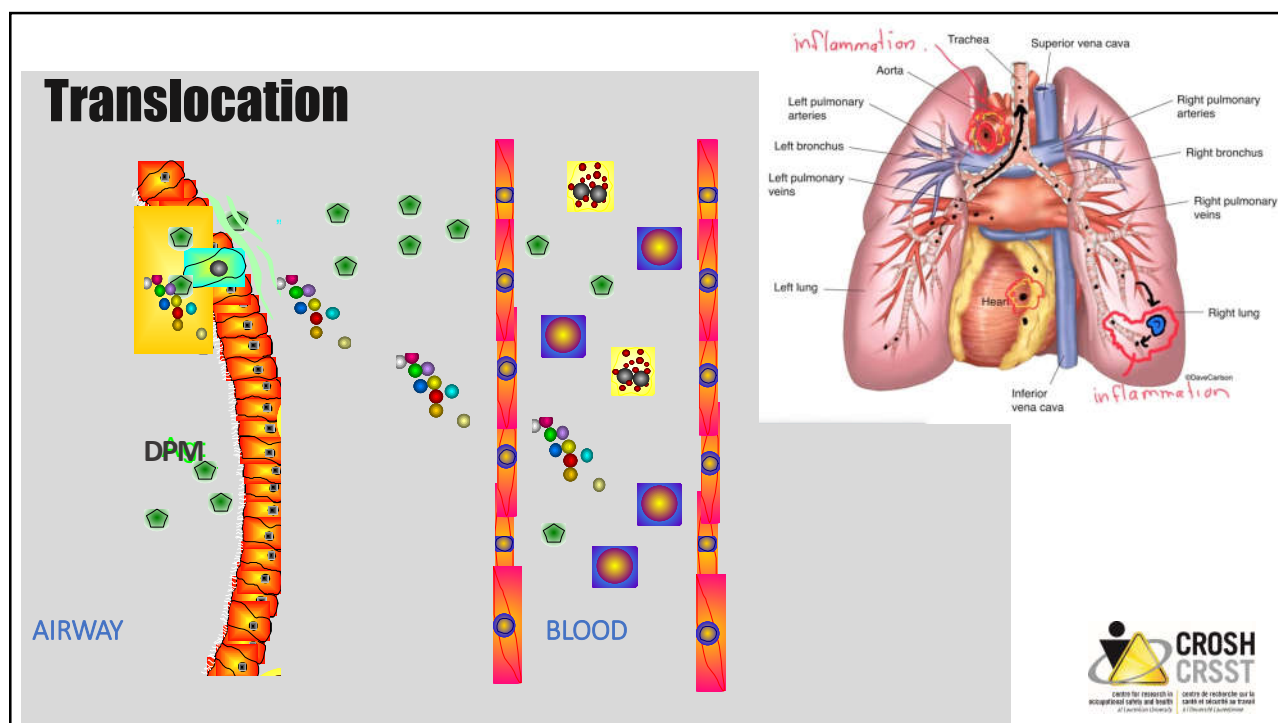
The body releases inflammatory compounds.



The body is overwhelmed and antioxidants are exhausted: inflammation continues causing progressive cell damage.

## Lung Injury



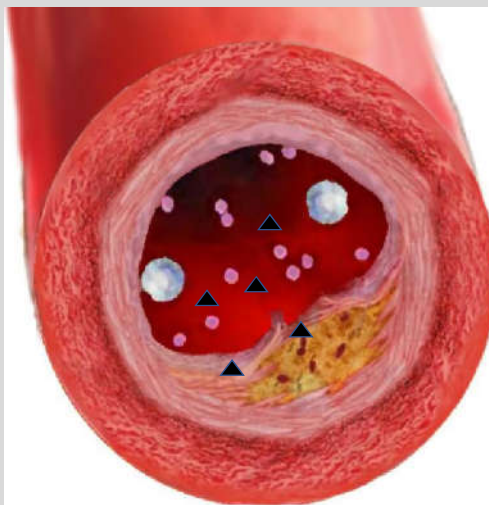




## Diesel Particles

Effects:

- directly damage vessel wall
- **Induces chronic inflammation**
- increases stickiness of the vessel wall



Blood Vessels

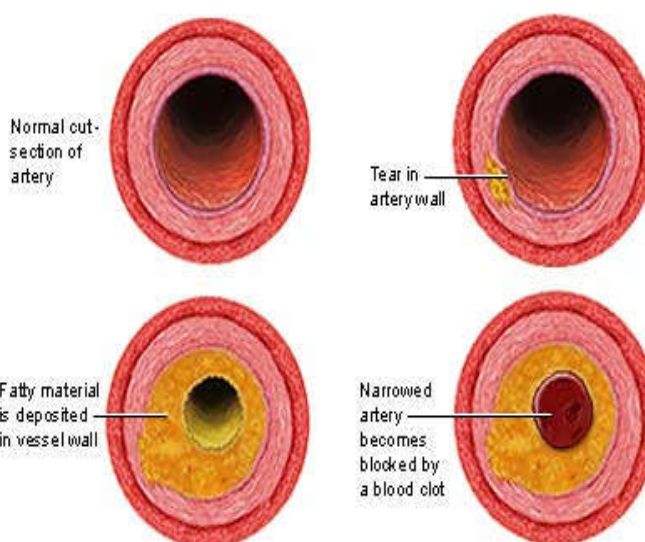
### • Atherosclerosis

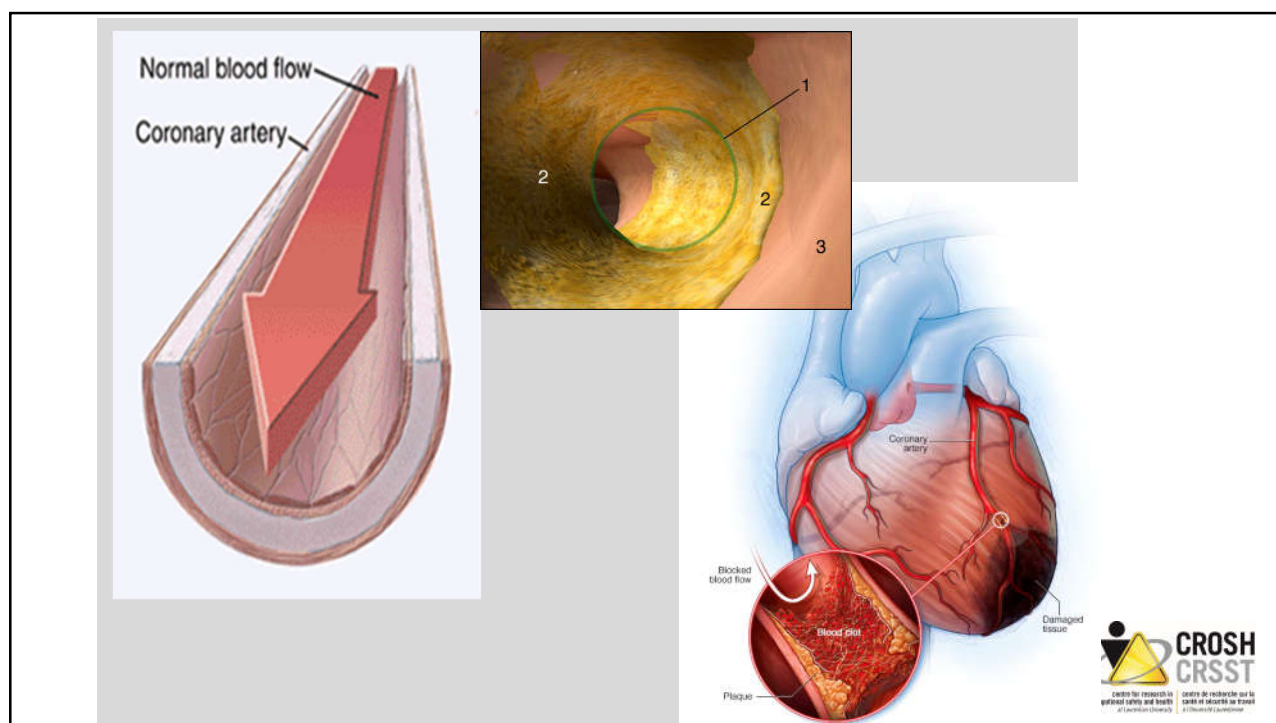
Heart

- Angina
- Heart Attack

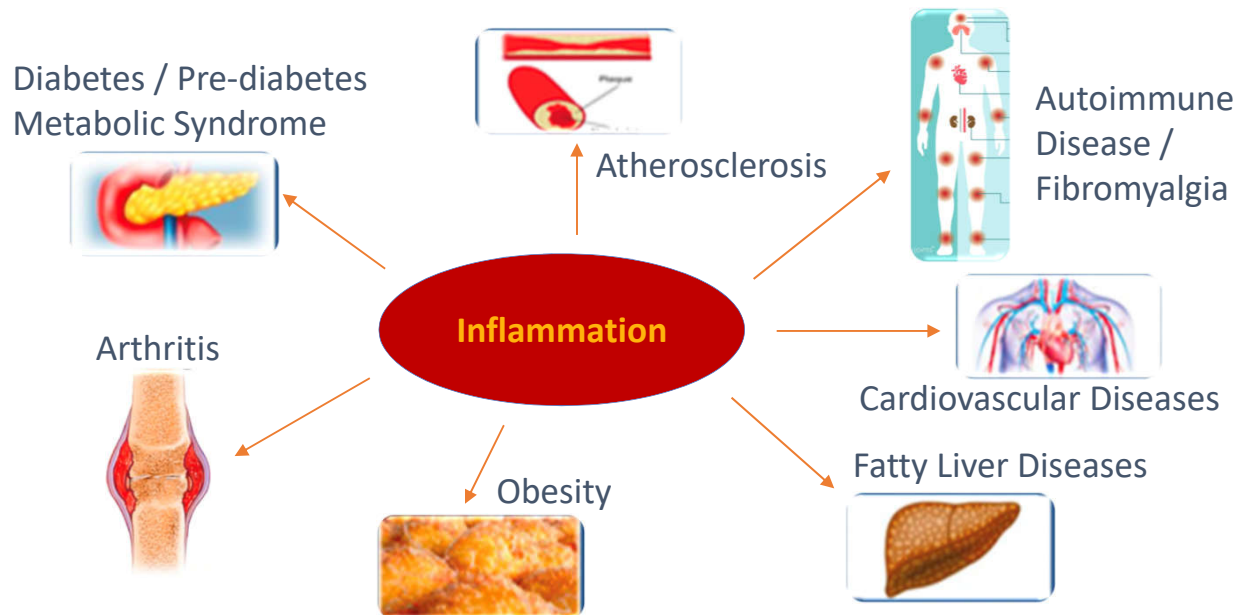
Brain

- Stroke





## Chronic Inflammation Can Cause or Worsen Chronic Disease

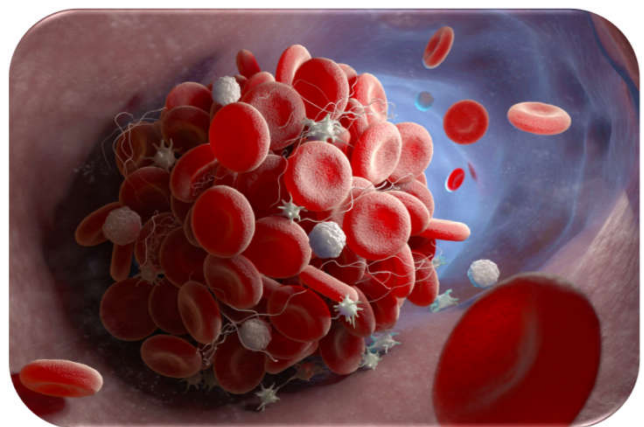


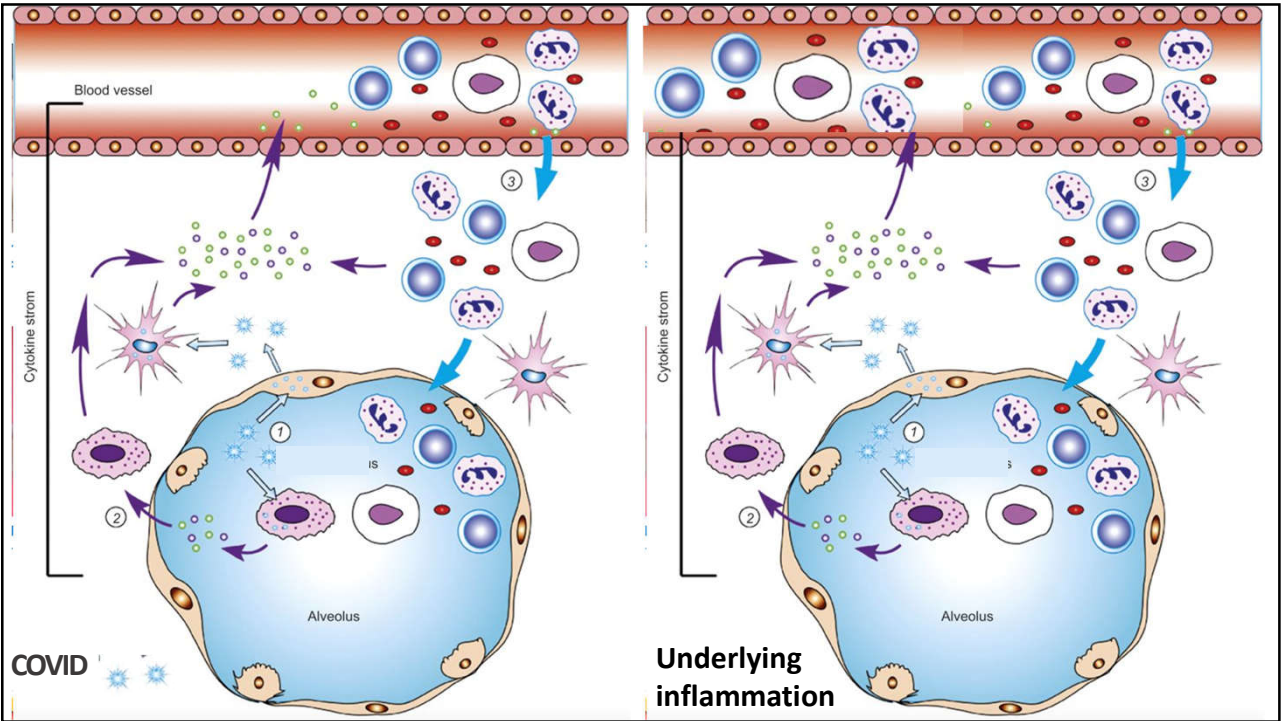
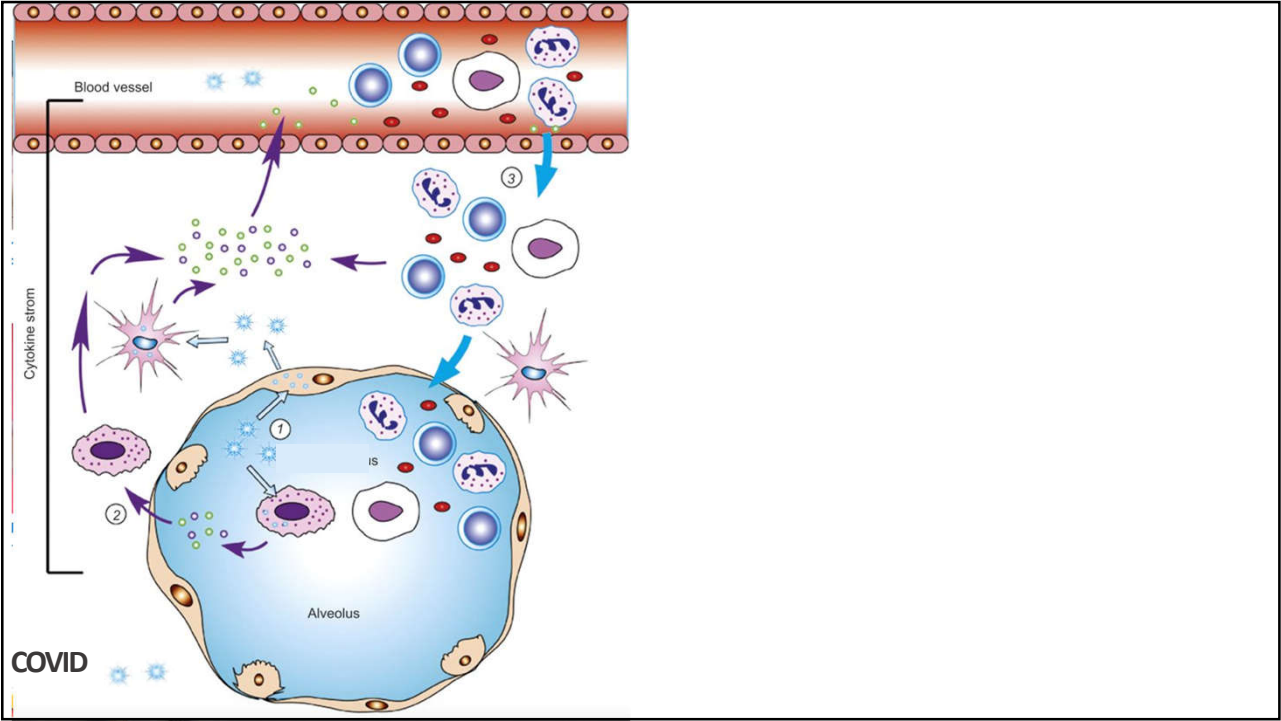
# COVID 19



## SARS COVID-19

- An Acute Inflammation – that is wide-spread.
- The virus starts in the lungs; but can travel into the rest of the body, via the blood.
- Inflammatory response can also start in the lungs but become wide spread.



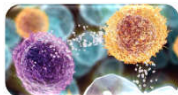




### Covid-19 No Baseline inflammation



Covid-19 enters the body; stimulates an immune response.



Immune system reacts; including inflammatory response.



COVID is eradicated; immune system retreats.

### Covid-19 + Low-Level Inflammation



Covid-19 enters the body and stimulates an immune response.



The inflammatory response **builds on top of the current inflammation – inflammatory storm.**



The body is overwhelmed and inflammation continues causing progressive cell damage.



## Pre-existing conditions



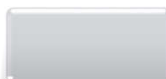
People who smoke / have lung disease



People with diabetes / pre-diabetes/ obese



People with high blood pressure/atherosclerosis/heart disease



Older individuals (inflam-aging)



? people regularly exposed to air pollution, like DPM



# Contact Information

[www.CROSH.ca](http://www.CROSH.ca)

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[@CROSH\\_CRST](https://twitter.com/CROSH_CRST)



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## Conference Reference

The material presented should not be reproduced without permission from:

[sdorman@laurentian.ca](mailto:sdorman@laurentian.ca)

To reference:

S.C. Dorman. The Air We Breathe: particle deposition in the airways.

Center for Research in Occupational Safety and Health (CROSH)  
 Goodman School of Mines Webinar, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020.



## Centre for Research in Occupational Safety and Health **CROSH**



CROSH brings together industry, labour groups, safe workplace associations, government organizations and researchers to solve important occupational health and safety issues with the goal of achieving

**PREVENTION THROUGH RESEARCH**

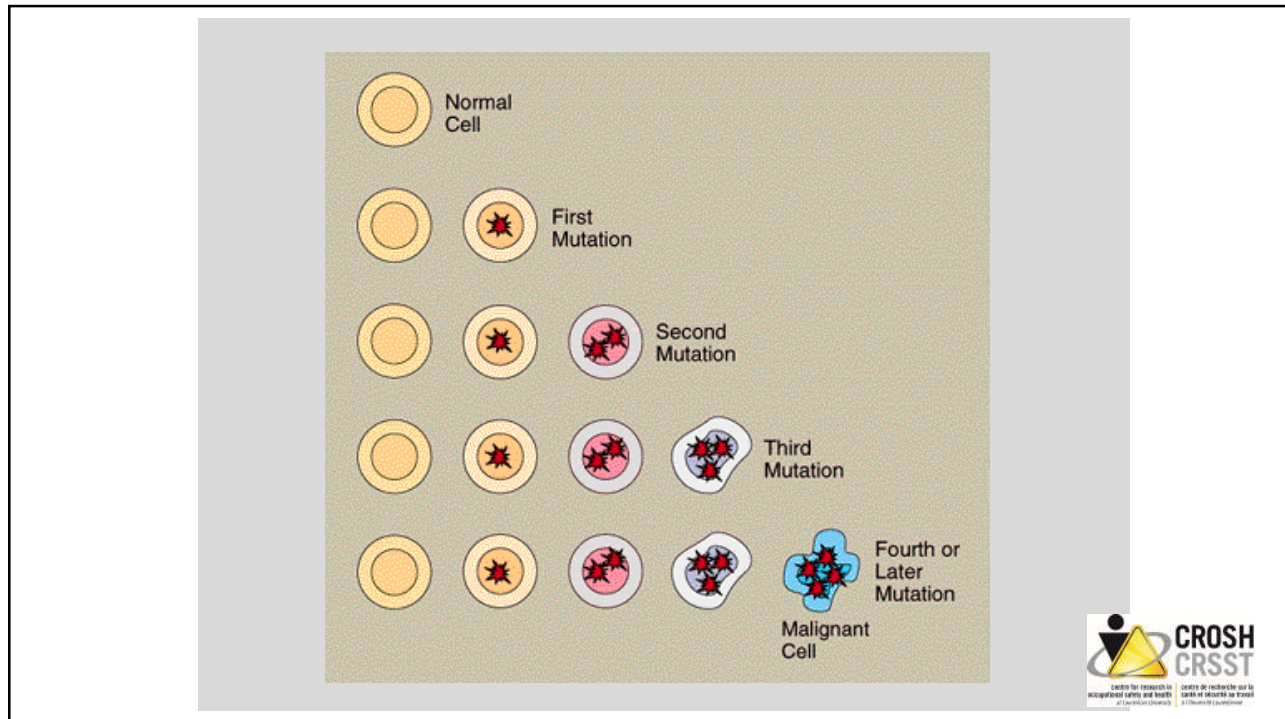
## Cancer risk

Organization & year	Animal Data	Human Data	Overall evaluation
NIOSH '88	Confirmatory	Limited	Potential Occupational carcinogen
IARC '89	Sufficient	Limited	Probably carcinogenic to Humans
IPCD '96	Not evaluated	Not evaluated	Probably carcinogenic to humans
EPA '98	Demonstrated carcinogenicity	Consistent evidence for a causal association	DPM classified as a toxic air contaminant
NTP '00	Supporting animal & mechanistic data	Elevated lung cancer in occupationally exposed groups	DPM-reasonable anticipated to be a carcinogen
EPA '02	Adequate evidence for carcinogenicity	Probable human carcinogen	Probably human carcinogen (Group B1) "Likely to be carcinogenic to humans by inhalation" and this evaluation applies to environmental exposures."
IARC '12	Adequate evidence for carcinogenicity	Human Carcinogen	Designated human carcinogen (Group 1)

Adapted from: Foster & Costa: Lung Biology in Health and Disease; Vol 204

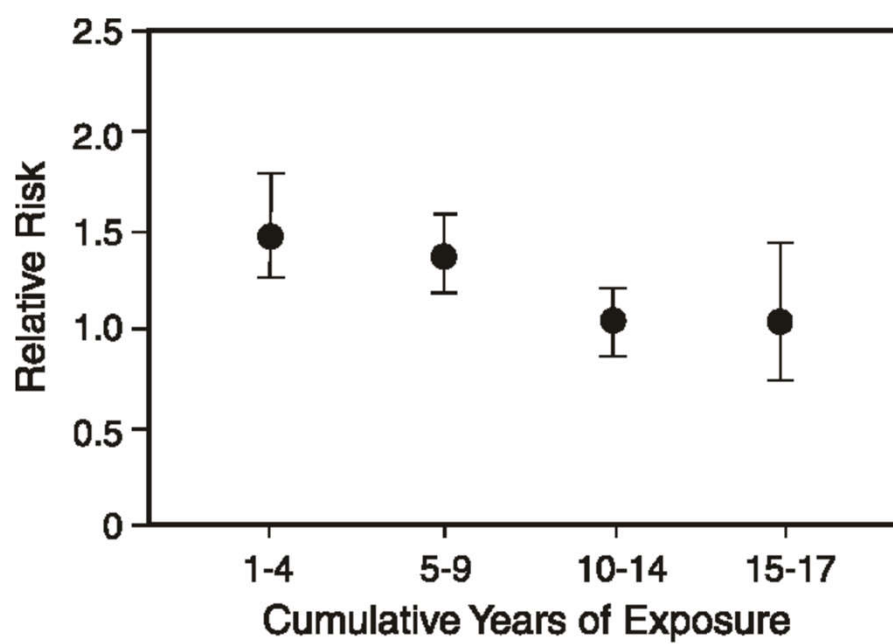
## Cancer: Properties of Cells

- Starts from a single cell that has had multiple attacks causing changes to the cell's genome.
- Causes abnormal replication.
  - Cancer cells do not respond to normal growth regulatory signals, from other cells
- As the cells multiply they continue to mutate allowing them to flourish at the expense of surrounding cells



# Diesel Particulate

- Diesel particulate matter has within it many different chemicals
- Some of which are known carcinogens (NO<sub>2</sub>-PAHS)
- Many of which are capable of producing oxygen radicals & oxidative stress (which can also cause genetic mutations)



Published in  
[Diesel Emissions and Lung Cancer : Epidemiology and Quantitative Risk Assessment](#) Archibald  
Cox, Douglas M. Costle

**Figure 4. Relative risk of lung cancer by years of exposure to diesel**