

Con il Patrocinio di



## Corso di Formazione

**Inquinamento atmosferico e danni alla salute:  
cosa devono sapere e cosa devono fare il Medico e l'Odontoiatra**

**Sabato 14 maggio 2022 (dalle 9.00 alle 13.30)  
Sala Riunioni Ordine dei Medici, Via Diaz 30 - UDINE**

# ***Monitoraggio della qualità dell'aria e aerosol veicolanti patogeni***



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI TRIESTE**

**Dipartimento di Scienze  
Chimiche e Farmaceutiche**

Pierluigi Barbieri



# ECOSISTEMI DI PROSSIMITÀ E SALUTE

CICLO DI SEMINARI  
PROSSIMITÀ E DIVARIO  
DI CITTADINANZA  
Prossimità fisica e aumentata  
Riduzione del divario di cittadinanza  
Benessere e riequilibrio territoriale

Ambiente, Salute  
e Benessere  
per una nuova  
normalità



CON LA COLLABORAZIONE  
della Società Italiana di  
Medicina Ambientale (SIMA)

5 MAGGIO 2022  
→ Sala Parlamentino  
Sala Gialla  
CNEL

## Qualità dell'aria negli ambienti indoor: *studi sul campo* in tempi di pandemia COVID-19

**Pierluigi Barbieri,**  
Università di Trieste  
barbierp@units.it

***Metti le scarpe da lavoro, incontra le  
persone in prima linea ed entra in campo!***



Pierluigi Barbieri

PA ***Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche e Farmaceutiche*** - Università degli Studi di Trieste

SC 03A1 – Chimica Analitica, SSD CHIM/12 Chimica dell'Ambiente e dei Beni Culturali

Unità di Ricerca DSCF, ***Analytical Sciences for Human/Environment Interactions***

Unità di Ricerca INSTM, ***interazioni tra materiali, dispositivi e microorganismi***

Presidente ***Ordine Regionale dei Chimici e dei Fisici FVG*** (2017-2021, 2021-2025)

Comitato Scientifico ***Società Italiana di Medicina Ambientale***



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche e Farmaceutiche

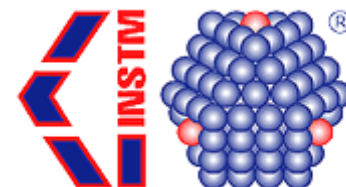


UNIVERSITÀ  
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Centro Interdipartimentale  
per l'Energia, l'Ambiente e i Trasporti  
Giacomo Ciamician

Consorzio Interuniversitario  
Nazionale per la Scienza e  
la Tecnologia dei Materiali



Già (2006- novembre 2015) **Consulente Tecnico della Procura della Repubblica** presso il **Tribunale di Trieste** su questioni di **inquinamento atmosferico** nel rione di Servola (Trieste) (P.M. dott. Federico Frezza, dott. Michele Dalla Costa, dott. Antonio Miggiani. dott. Giorgio Milillo).

**Esperto a supporto del Sindaco di Trieste su tematiche di Inquinamento e Chimica Ambientale**  
(ottobre 2016-dicembre 2018)

Nominato nel 2015 esperto nazionale presso il **Comitato Europeo di Normazione** nei gruppi di lavoro del comitato tecnico **CEN / TC 264 "Qualità dell'aria"**, WG2 "Determinazione della concentrazione di odore mediante olfattometria dinamica " e WG 41 "Sensori elettronici per il monitoraggio di odoranti", WG28 "Aria ambiente e emissioni – Bioaerosols«, dal GL 4 "Qualità dell'aria" della Commissione Ambiente (CT 004) di UNI.

Dal 2014 supporta l'**Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione dell'Ambiente del Friuli Venezia Giulia** nella stesura di linee guida regionali per la caratterizzazione e gestione delle **molestie olfattive**, contratto ARPAFVG-DSCF "Sviluppo di un modello concettuale relativo agli impatti odorigeni dovuti ad impianti industriali ed attività produttive, finalizzato all'individuazione di indicatori utili per la quantificazione dell'impatto odorigeno all'interno di un approccio integrato di metodologie di analisi. Test applicativo all'area industriale di Trieste". Già rappresentante dell'Università degli Studi di Trieste presso il **Comitato scientifico dell'Agenzia Regionale per la Protezione dell'Ambiente del Friuli Venezia Giulia** a supporto della Direzione Generale, su designazione del Magnifico Rettore (prot.UniTS 7447 14/03/2016).

Dal settembre 2018 coordina il gruppo di lavoro che supporta la **Direzione centrale difesa dell'ambiente, energia e sviluppo sostenibile della Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia** su tematiche di inquinamento atmosferico («Aggiornamento del **Piano Regionale di Miglioramento della Qualità dell'Aria**»; «Legge regionale su gestione molestie olfattive»)



comune di trieste



REGIONE AUTONOMA  
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA



**Febbraio 2020:** Pandemia da patologia CoViD-19 generata da SARS CoV 2 (severe acute *respiratory* syndrome coronavirus 2): **focolai in casa d'amici**



Regione Emilia-Romagna

La Regione

Aree tematiche

Come fare per

🏠 / Notizie / 2020 / Marzo

lunedì, 16 marzo 2020

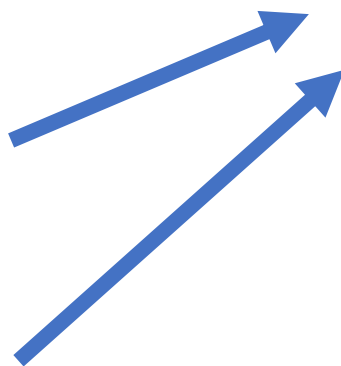
**Coronavirus, chiuso il comune di Medicina (Bo): contagio troppo elevato, non è possibile uscire e entrare**

nytimes.com/interactive/2020/03/27/world/europe/coronavirus-italy-...

The New York Times

Bergamo, Italy

This is the bleak heart of the world's deadliest coronavirus outbreak.



**Attiva pensieri...**

**Nostri primi studi su SARS CoV 2 negli aerosol ambientali**



**e azione**



**POSITION PAPER**

**Relazione circa l'effetto dell'inquinamento da particolato atmosferico e la diffusione di virus nella popolazione**

[https://www.simaitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/COVID19\\_Position-Paper-SIMA\\_Relazione-circa-leffetto-dellinquinamento-da-particolato-atmosferico-e-la-diffusione-di-virus-nella-popolazione.pdf](https://www.simaitalia.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/COVID19_Position-Paper-SIMA_Relazione-circa-leffetto-dellinquinamento-da-particolato-atmosferico-e-la-diffusione-di-virus-nella-popolazione.pdf)

# Inquinamento e Covid: due vaghi indizi non fanno una prova



di **Stefano Caserini, Cinzia Perrino, Francesco Forastiere, Guido Poli, Elisa Vicenzi, Luca Carra**



Environmental Research  
Volume 204, Part B, March 2022, 112116

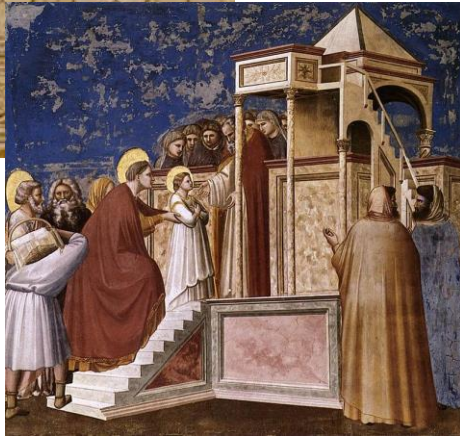


“SARS-CoV-2 is transmitted by particulate air pollution”: Misinterpretations of statistical data, skewed citation practices, and misuse of specific terminology spreading the misconception ☆

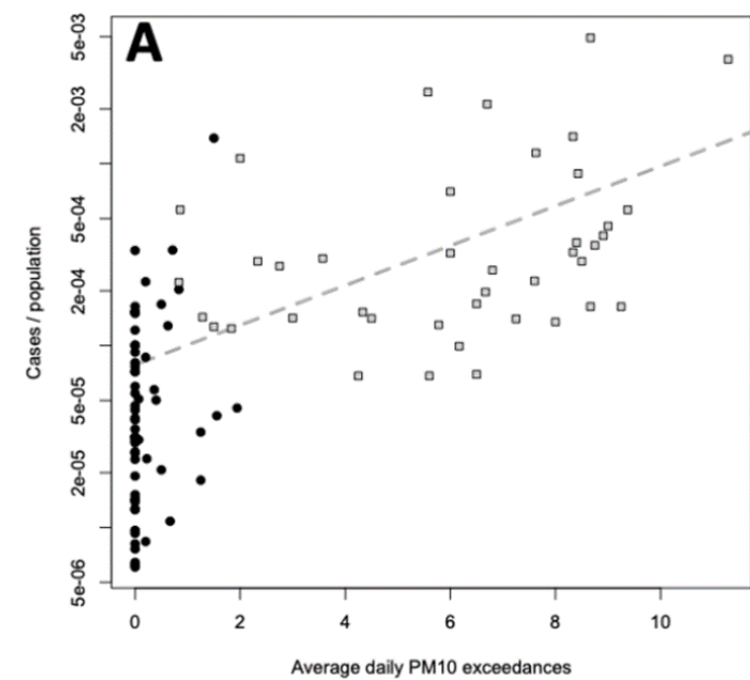
Alexander Ishmatov <sup>a, b, c</sup>  

Necessità di rafforzare **COMPETENZA, ORGANIZZAZIONE ED OPERATIVITA'**  
su una componente «nuova» della qualità dell'aria:

*I MICROORGANISMI (PATOGENI) AERODISPERSI*



**Zona d'ombra:**  
NON ESISTONO METODI  
INTERNAZIONALMENTE RICONOSCIUTI PER  
MONITORARE VIRUS E BATTERI NELL'ARIA  
(anche influenza, TBC, Morbillo,  
Anti-Microbico-Resistenza)



**BMJ Open** Latest Content Archive Auth

Home / Archive / Volume 10, Issue 9

<https://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/10/9/e039338>

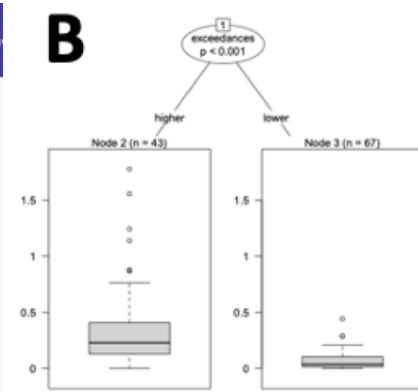
110 Citations

Public health  
Original research

Potential role of particulate matter in the spreading of COVID-19 in Northern Italy: first observational study based on initial epidemic diffusion

Leonardo Setti<sup>1</sup>, Fabrizio Passarini<sup>1</sup>, Gianluigi De Gennaro<sup>2</sup>, Pierluigi Barbieri<sup>3</sup>, Sabina Licen<sup>3</sup>, Maria Grazia Perrone<sup>4</sup>, Andrea Piazzalunga<sup>5</sup>, Massimo Borelli<sup>6</sup>, Jolanda Palmisani<sup>2</sup>, Alessia Di Gilio<sup>2</sup>, Emanuele Rizzo<sup>6</sup>, Annamaria Colao<sup>7</sup>, Prisco Piscitelli<sup>8</sup>, Alessandro Miani<sup>9</sup>

Relationship between the daily limit value of exceedances of PM<sub>10</sub> and COVID-19 case ratios over the population in Italian provinces. (A) Scatter plot on a semilogarithmic scale relating the proportion of COVID-19 cases of the population of northern (grey squares) and southern (black bullets) Italian provinces vs the average daily limit value of exceedances of PM<sub>10</sub>. The dashed binomial (logistic) regression is characterised by an increasing slope of 0.25 (p<0.001). (B) Box plots showing that—with a 1.29 cut-off value of exceedance of PM<sub>10</sub>—the proportion of COVID-19 cases is greater (p<0.001) in the most polluted provinces (39 out of 41 located in Northern Italy) than the less polluted provinces, mainly located in Southern Italy (62 out of 66).



Environmental Research  
Volume 188, September 2020, 109754



## SARS-Cov-2RNA found on particulate matter of Bergamo in Northern Italy: First evidence

Leonardo Setti<sup>a</sup>, Fabrizio Passarini<sup>b</sup>, Gianluigi De Gennaro<sup>c</sup>, Pierluigi Barbieri<sup>d</sup>, Maria Grazia Perrone<sup>e</sup>, Massimo Borelli<sup>f</sup>, Jolanda Palmisani<sup>g</sup>, Alessia Di Gilio<sup>h</sup>, Valentina Torboli<sup>f</sup>, Francesco Fontana<sup>g</sup>, Libera Clemente<sup>g</sup>, Alberto Pallavicini<sup>f</sup>, Maurizio Ruscio<sup>g</sup>, Prisco Piscitelli<sup>h</sup>, Alessandro Miani<sup>h, i</sup>

### Un ulteriore passo sperimentale: analisi RNA RT-PCR su filtri PM10

**34 PM10 samples in Bergamo area** (the epicenter of the Italian COVID-19 epidemic) by using two air samplers over a continuous 3-weeks period. Filters were properly stored and underwent RNA extraction and amplification according to WHO protocols in two parallel blind analyses performed by two different authorized laboratories. Up to three highly specific molecular marker genes (E, N, and RdRP) were used to test the presence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA on particulate matter.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envres.2020.109754>

218

Citations



# MANCANO CONOSCENZE CONSOLIDATE SU TEMI RILEVANTI (ANCORA!!!)

CORRESPONDENCE

## Aerosol and Surface Stability of SARS-CoV-2 as Compared with SARS-CoV-1

N Engl J Med . 2020 Apr  
16;382(16):1564-1567. doi:  
10.1056/NEJMc2004973. Epub 2020  
Mar 17.

Neeltje van Doremalen, Trenton  
Bushmaker, Dylan H Morris, Myndi G  
Holbrook, Amandine Gamble, Brandi N  
Williamson, Azaibi Tamin, Jennifer L  
Harcourt, Natalie J Thornburg, Susan I  
Gerber, James O Lloyd-Smith, Emmie de  
Wit, Vincent J Munster

... SARS-CoV-2 remained viable in  
aerosols throughout the duration of our  
experiment (3 hours) ...

### Airborne transmission

## FACT CHECK: COVID-19 is NOT airborne

The virus that causes COVID-19 is mainly transmitted through droplets generated when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or speaks. **These droplets are too heavy to hang in the air. They quickly fall on floors or surfaces.**

You can be infected by breathing in the virus if you are within 1 metre of a person who has COVID-19, or by touching a contaminated surface and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth before washing your hands.

To protect yourself, keep at least 1 metre distance from others and disinfect surfaces that are touched frequently. Regularly clean your hands thoroughly and avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.



This message spreading on social media is incorrect. Help stop misinformation. Verify the facts before sharing.



March 28 2020

#Coronavirus #COVID19

### Role and characterization of Environmental Aerosols in the spread of SARS-CoV-2

Submit to this Journal

Review for this Journal

Edit a Special Issue

## Article Menu

Accepted: 16 April 2020

Open Access Editorial

# Airborne Transmission Route of COVID-19: Why 2 Meters/6 Feet of Inter-Personal Distance Could Not Be Enough

by  Leonardo Setti <sup>1,\*</sup>  ,  Fabrizio Passarini <sup>2</sup>  ,  Gianluigi De Gennaro <sup>3</sup>  ,  Pierluigi Barbieri <sup>4</sup> ,  
 Maria Grazia Perrone <sup>5</sup>  ,  Massimo Borelli <sup>6</sup>  ,  Jolanda Palmisani <sup>3</sup>  ,  Alessia Di Gilio <sup>3</sup>  ,  
 Prisco Piscitelli <sup>7,8</sup>   and  Alessandro Miani <sup>8,9</sup> 

## It Is Time to Address Airborne Transmission of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

Lidia Morawska , Donald K Milton

*Clinical Infectious Diseases*, Volume 71, Issue 9, 1 November 2020, Pages 2311–2313,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciaa939>

**Published:** 06 July 2020 **Article history** ▼

by L Morawska · 2020 · Cited by 984

**Acknowledgment.** Together with the authors, 239 scientists support this Commentary, and their affiliations and contact details are listed in the

We appeal to the medical community and to the relevant national and international bodies to recognize the potential for airborne spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). There is ***significant potential for inhalation exposure to viruses in microscopic respiratory droplets (microdroplets) at short to medium distances*** (up to ***several meters***, or room scale), and we are advocating for the use of preventive measures to mitigate this route of airborne transmission.

Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 in K-12 schools

Emerging SARS-CoV-2 Variants

Evidence for Conditions that Increase Risk of Severe Illness

Use of Masks to Control the Spread of SARS-CoV-2

## SARS-CoV-2 is transmitted by exposure to infectious respiratory fluids

The principal mode by which people are infected with SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) is through exposure to respiratory fluids carrying infectious virus. Exposure occurs in three principal ways: (1) inhalation of very fine respiratory droplets and aerosol particles, (2) deposition of respiratory droplets and particles on exposed mucous membranes in the mouth, nose, or eye by direct splashes and sprays, and (3) touching mucous membranes with hands that have been soiled either directly by virus-containing respiratory fluids or indirectly by touching surfaces with virus on them.

Page First Published May 7, 2021



Transmission of  
Viruses in Droplets  
and Aerosols

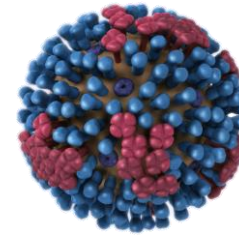
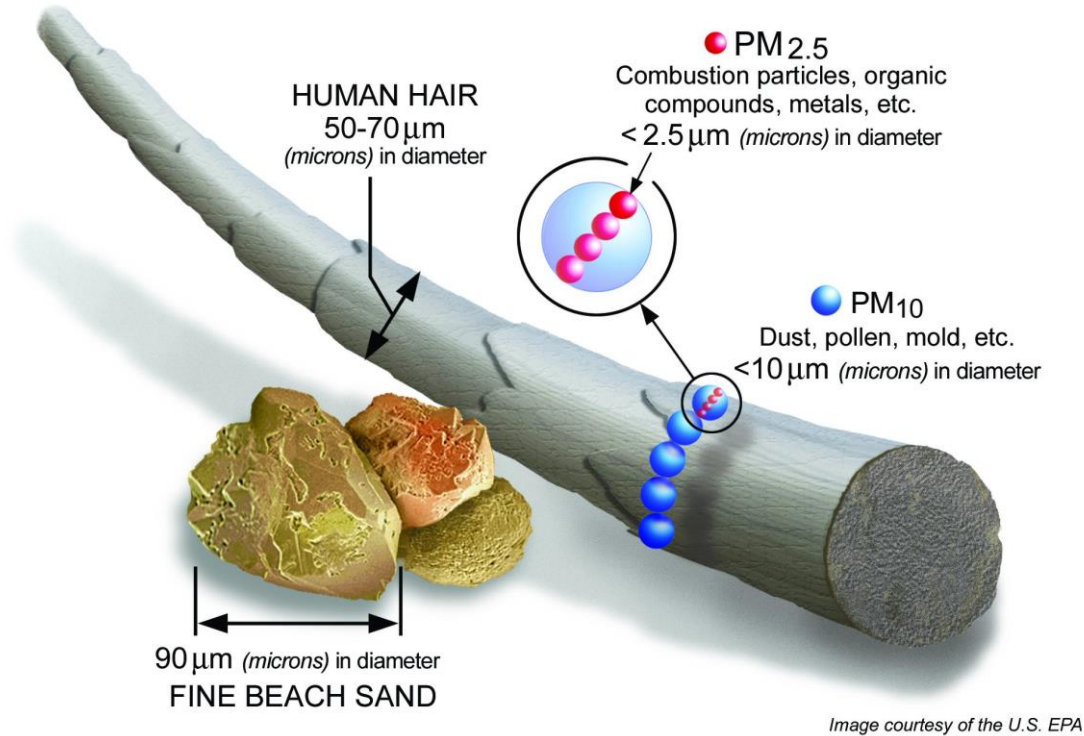
LINSEY C. MARR

*CHARLES P. LUNSFORD PROFESSOR  
CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING  
VIRGINIA TECH*

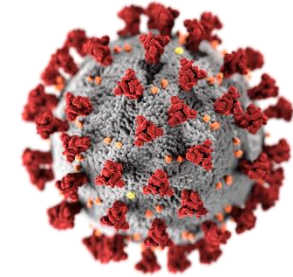
26 MARCH 2020



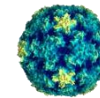
# Virus Size



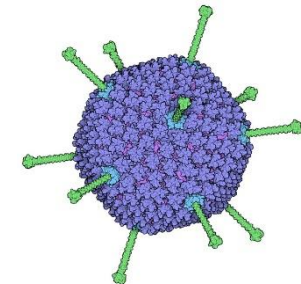
influenza  
0.1  $\mu\text{m}$



SARS-CoV-2  
0.12  $\mu\text{m}$



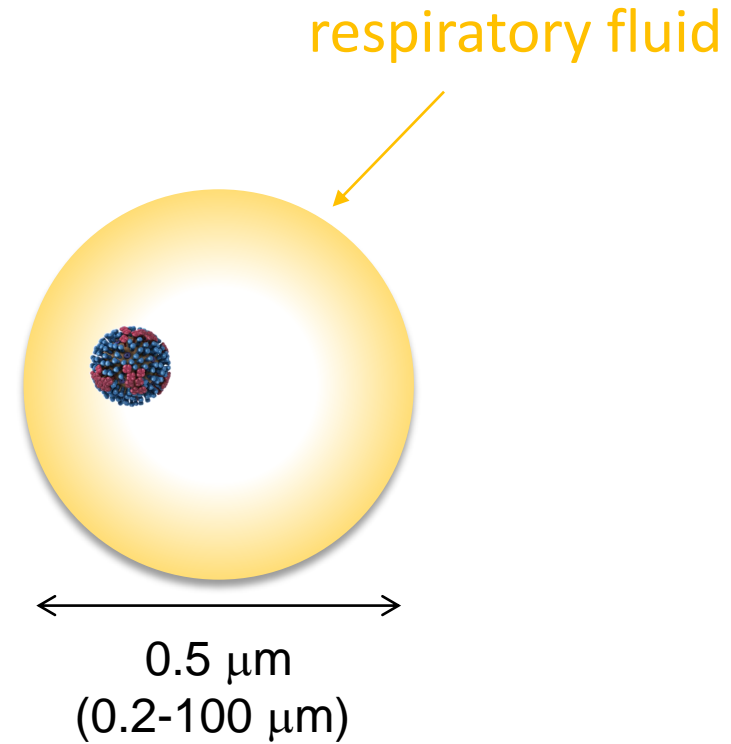
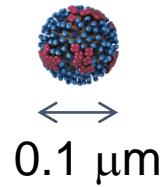
rhinovirus  
0.03  $\mu\text{m}$



adenovirus  
0.1  $\mu\text{m}$

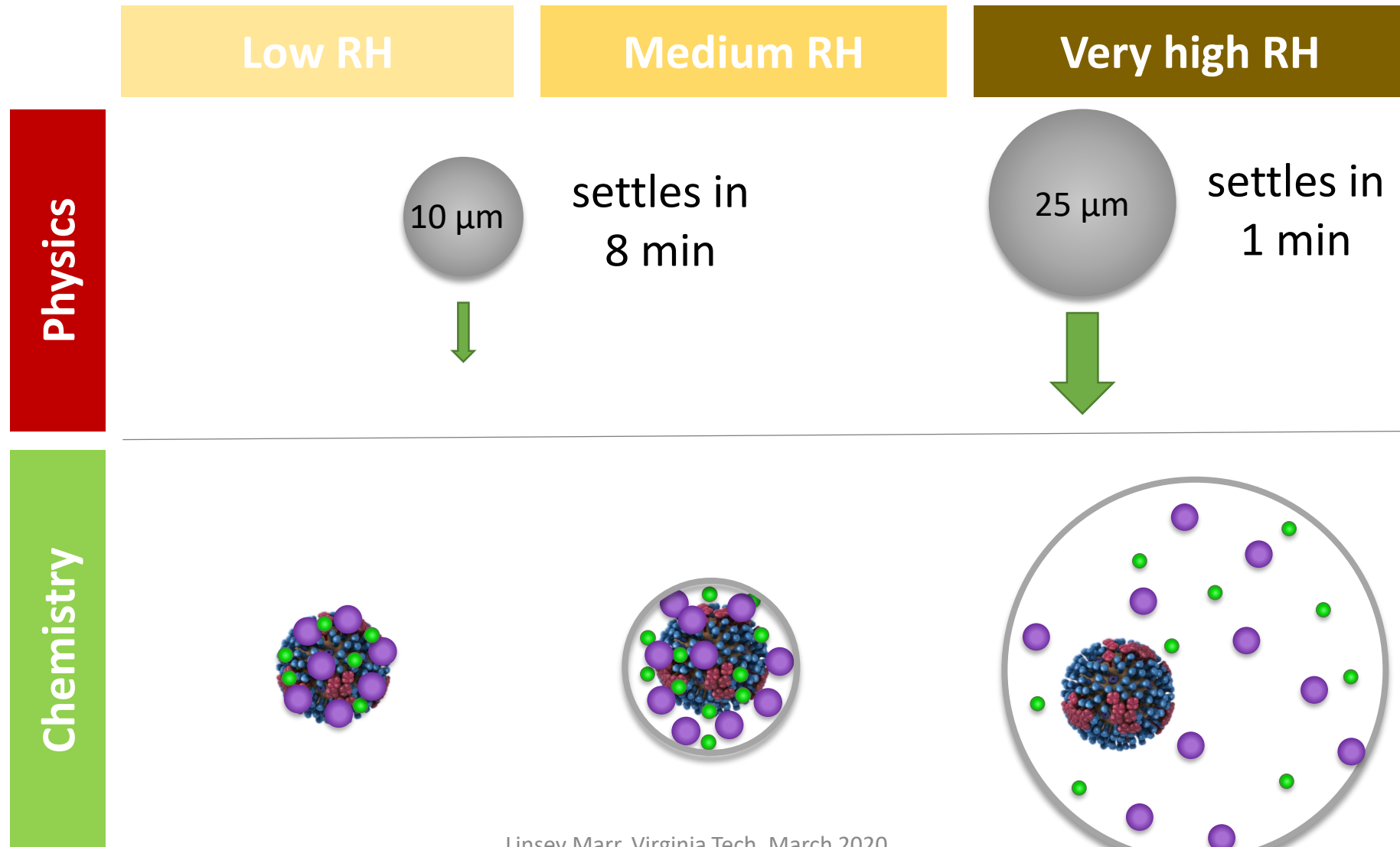
# Size Matters

- Airborne virus is not naked!



- Size determines
  - Lifetime in the atmosphere
  - Where it deposits in the respiratory system

# How Might RH Affect Transmission?



**Le particelle aerodisperse con diametri inferiori al micrometro / tra cui le ultrafini (almeno una dimensione minore di 100 nanometri) non sono normate e non sono definiti metodi standardizzati per la loro determinazione**



Contesto e obiettivi: ***la questione del rilevamento e del monitoraggio dell'infettività residua e della presenza di SARS-CoV-2 nei campioni di aria NON si basa ancora su metodi standardizzati*** e sono ***disponibili relativamente pochi dati sperimentali***, nonostante l'entità dell'impatto sociale del COVID-19.

<https://aerosol-soc.com/covid-19/>

**Lower level of certainty:**

1. The dependence of airborne survival on relative humidity and aerosol particle composition remains uncertain. In one study, SARS-CoV-2 survived for longer at intermediate RH than high RH in tissue culture medium, with the reverse trend in artificial saliva.<sup>10</sup>
2. Although the airborne transmission of SARS-CoV-2 has been established between ferrets<sup>20</sup> and the airborne transmission in humans has been inferred (e.g. during a choral society rehearsal),<sup>21</sup> the relationship between RNA genome copy numbers and infectious virus remains uncertain.
3. The complex interactions of multiple pathogens, viral load and respiratory droplet composition and how this depends on the infection state of the individual remain to be addressed.

**Low level of certainty:**

1. **The dose of SARS-CoV-2 virus required to cause infection:** The minimum infectious dose (MID) for SARS-CoV-2 is not yet known, however the MID for SARS-CoV-1 was relatively low in the range 1-280 virions<sup>11</sup>.



Campionamento per il rilevamento dell'RNA di aerosol ambientale  
Campionamento per la valutazione dell'infettività residua dell'aerosol  
Conservazione e pretrattamento del campione, PM aerosol  
Rilevamento di SARS CoV 2 (RT-PCR, CANARY)  
Rilevazione dell'infettività (linee cellulari)

Epidemiology & Infection

<https://doi.org/10.1017/S0950268821000790>

Review of infective dose, routes of transmission and outcome of COVID-19 caused by the SARS-COV-2: comparison with other respiratory viruses<sup>‡</sup>

---

Sedighe Karimzadeh<sup>1</sup> , Raj Bhopal<sup>2</sup> and Nguyen Tien Huy<sup>3</sup> 

Sono stati proposti **approcci tecnologici vecchi e nuovi per il campionamento e il rilevamento dei virus** nell'ambiente;

**richiedono verifiche sul campo** per evidenziare scenari applicativi, punti di forza e limiti appropriati per la valutazione dell'esposizione virale ambientale correlata alla diffusione del COVID-19.

**Anche per testare l'efficacia delle strategie e delle tecnologie di contenimento del COVID19!**

***Metti le scarpe da lavoro, incontra le persone in prima linea ed entra in campo!***



<https://biologues.plos.org/2017/05/03/protocols-the-devil-is-in-the-details/>

Dopo il successo nel rilevamento dell'RNA nel PM esterno → **Proposta di controllo dell'aria indoor dell'RNA SARS-CoV-2 nei reparti ospedalieri** → «**Ti manca la valutazione dell'infettività!**» Il rilevamento dell'RNA non è sufficiente

Giugno 2020: campionamento in reparto Geriatrico dell'ospedale Maggiore (Trieste) con FAI Instruments Silent PM10 Sampler (G. de Gennaro UniBA)

Settembre 2020: riattivazione del laboratorio BSL3 dell'ospedale San Polo di Monfalcone (ASUGI) Sforzo congiunto (ASUGI-DSCF-TCR Tecora-QU), - operativo!

**Infettività SARS-CoV-2 rilevata come (i) replicazione del virus evidenziata da RT-PCR dopo incubazione (ad es. 7 giorni) e da (ii) saggio effetto citopatico/placca sulla linea cellulare VERO E6**



Determinazione delle  
**soglie Ct correlate a  
infettività residua  
per campioni ambientali**

Environmental Research 198 (2021) 111200



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Environmental Research

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/envres](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/envres)



Molecular detection of SARS-CoV-2 from indoor air samples in environmental monitoring needs adequate temporal coverage and infectivity assessment

Pierluigi Barbieri <sup>a,d</sup>, Luisa Zupin <sup>b,\*</sup>, Sabina Licen <sup>a,d,\*\*</sup>, Valentina Torboli <sup>c</sup>, Sabrina Semeraro <sup>d</sup>, Sergio Cozzutto <sup>e</sup>, Jolanda Palmisani <sup>f</sup>, Alessia Di Gilio <sup>f</sup>, Gianluigi de Gennaro <sup>f</sup>, Francesco Fontana <sup>g</sup>, Cinzia Omiciuolo <sup>h</sup>, Alberto Pallavicini <sup>c</sup>, Maurizio Ruscio <sup>h</sup>, Sergio Crovella <sup>i</sup>

Ct values of RdRp gene amplification of the PM<sub>10</sub> filter RNA extraction from hospital ward (four replicates) and from spiked control filters, both clean/new and used/environmental PM<sub>10</sub>, sampled in 2018; N.D. = not detected.

PM <sub>10</sub> Sample filter	Ct for RdRp replicate 1	Ct for RdRp replicate 2	Ct for RdRp replicate 3	Ct for RdRp replicate 4
June 19, 2020	37.4	36.7	37.7	37.1
June 20, 2020	38.5	N.D.	38.3	N.D.
June 21, 2020	40.3	N.D.	38.3	N.D.
June 22, 2020	40.5	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
June 23, 2020	N.D.	39.1	N.D.	N.D.
Clean spiked E+6 copies	35.1			
Used spiked E+6 copies	39.1			
Used spiked E+8 copies	37.0	38.4		

### PM10 samples

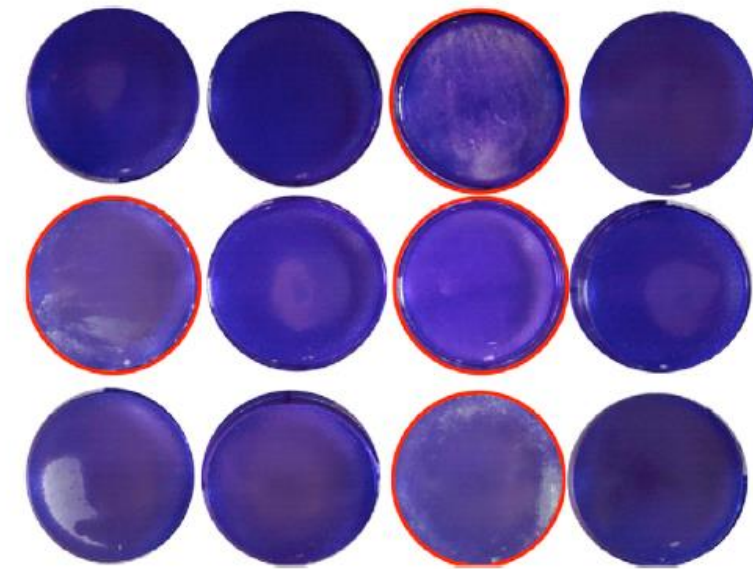


Fig. 2. Representation of the crystal violet staining of the 12 samples inoculated on Vero E6 cells. First row: patients 1,2,3,4; Second row: patients 5,6,7,8; Third row: patients 9,10,11,12. The darker violet corresponds to the viable cells still attached at the wells (see patients 1,2,4,6,8,9,10,12), instead, where the cells are less viable due to the infection they tend to detach and the staining corresponding to a low number of cells weak (patients 3,5,7,11, red circled).

## Ct e Effetto CitoPatico (infettività) su cellule Vero E6, dopo 7 giorni di inoculazione su campioni nasofaringei: nessun effetto CPE su cellule VERO E6 per campioni con Ct >24 o copie virali < 2E+10

Table 4

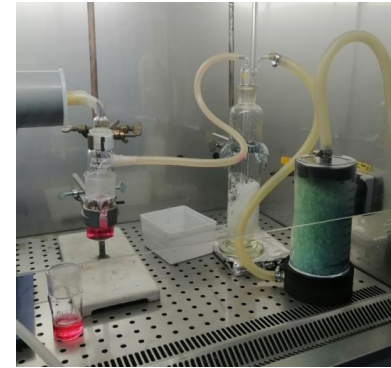
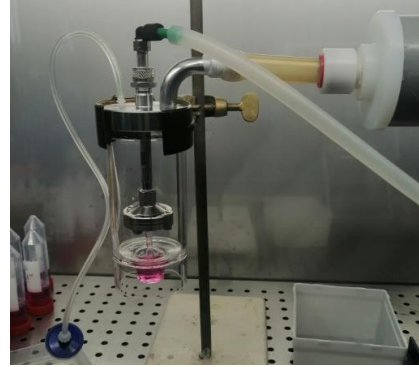
The cycle threshold (Ct) and the viral load (expressed as viral copies/ml) at day 0, 2, 5 and 7 post SARS-CoV-2 inoculation. The quantity of virus initially used to infect the cells at day 0, as well as the microscopically evaluation of the cytopathic effect at day 7 are reported.

Sample	Day 0		Day 2		Day 5		Day 7		Day 0	Day 7
	Ct	viral copy/ml	Ct	viral copy/ml	Ct	viral copy/ml	Ct	viral copy/ml	Viral copies for infection	cytopathic effect
1	24.4	4.16E+09	28.3	1.67E+08	29.6	3.00E+08	27.2	2.66E+08	2.08E+09	-
2	25.4	1.76E+09	26.0	1.13E+09	29.2	3.78E+08	27.9	1.46E+08	8.78E+08	-
3	18.4	5.81E+11	15.6	5.49E+12	14.2	9.83E+12	13.8	3.21E+13	2.90E+11	+
4	25.4	1.85E+09	28.7	1.21E+08	29.1	4.19E+08	28.0	1.28E+08	9.26E+08	-
5	21.5	4.37E+10	18.4	5.48E+11	13.9	1.27E+13	13.9	2.97E+13	2.18E+10	+
6	37.8	7.31E+04	33.0	3.65E+06	33.5	2.10E+07	28.6	7.75E+07	3.66E+04	-
7	19.2	2.85E+11	16.2	3.32E+12	14.8	6.84E+12	14.4	1.87E+13	1.43E+11	+
8	29.7	5.53E+07	31.8	9.30E+06	35.0	7.24E+06	28.4	9.17E+07	2.76E+07	-
9	34.2	1.31E+06	32.2	7.10E+06	38.2	8.40E+05	30.7	1.27E+07	6.53E+05	-
10	36.0	3.06E+05	36.9	1.48E+05	33.2	2.53E+07	30.3	1.74E+07	1.53E+05	-
11	21.4	4.86E+10	22.1	2.72E+10	14.0	1.11E+13	13.9	3.04E+13	2.43E+10	+
12	33.5	2.34E+06	31.8	9.98E+06	31.4	8.85E+07	28.2	1.13E+08	1.17E+06	-



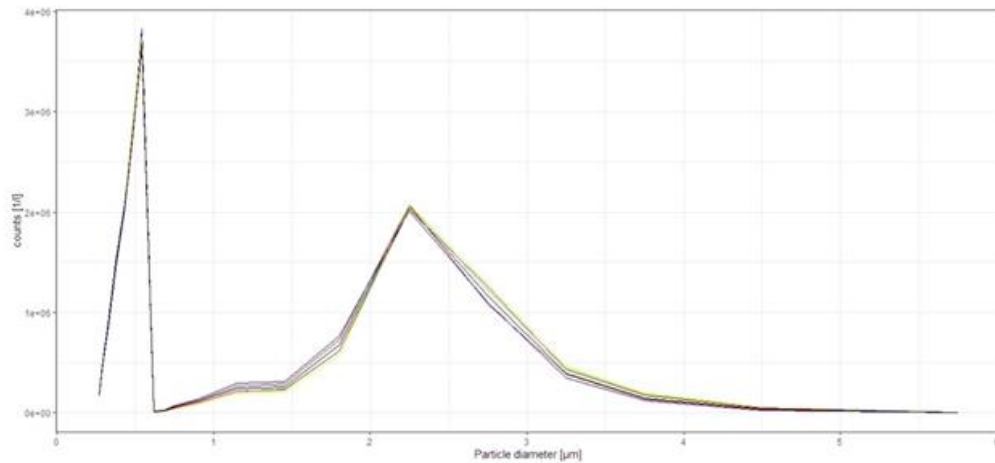
# June 2021: *SARS-CoV-2* -aerosol generation & sampling tests in controlled environment

CHTechnologies *8 jets BLAM nebulizer*, for effective and gentle aerosolization (E10 viable viral copies aerosolized and more)  
Courtesy of SIMA!

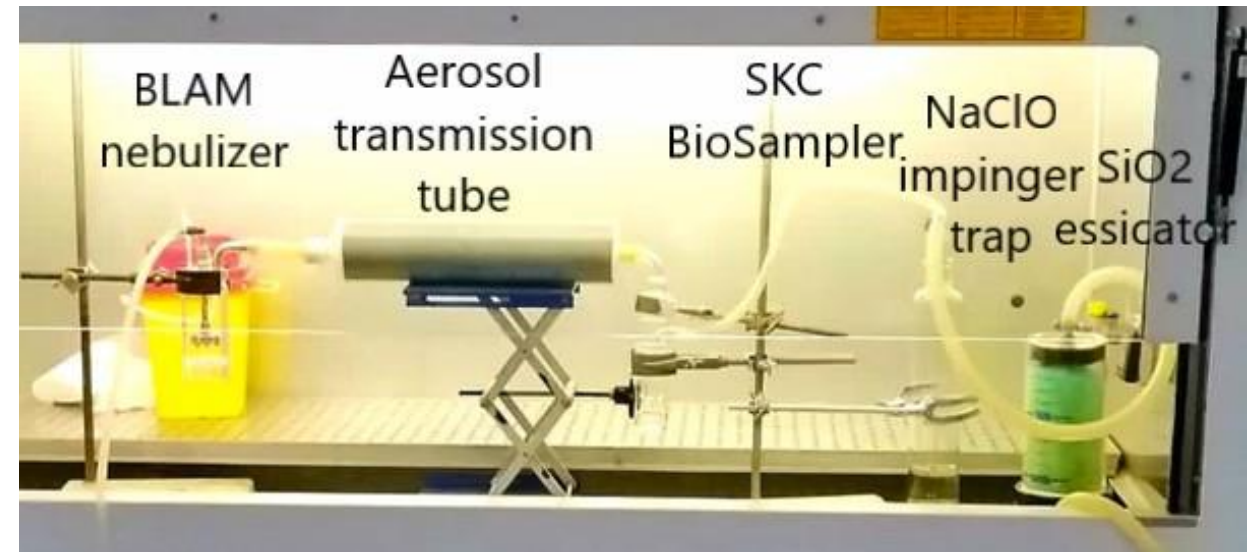


SKC *Biosampler*,  
Impinger with tangential flow on collection liquid surface

Test of SARS CoV 2 transmission



**Figure 2:** Average concentrations (particle counts/liter vs particle diameter in micrometers) of the aerosolization runs (15 measures each) measured at the inlet (3 runs) and idem at the outlet (3 runs) of the aerosol transmission tube.



Zupin, L.; Licen, S.; Milani, M.; Clemente, L.; Martello, L.; Semeraro, S.; Fontana, F.; Ruscio, M.; Miani, A.; Crovella, S.; Barbieri, P. Evaluation of Residual Infectivity after SARS-CoV-2 Aerosol Transmission in a Controlled Laboratory Setting. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2021, *18*, 11172. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph182111172>- Foundation for the setup of Viral Filtration Efficiency assay

Viral load (average viral copies for ml) at day 0 and at day 7. The data for 5 and 10 minutes of sampling, from the residual liquid in the nebulizer are reported. Cytopathic effects (CPE) and p-value from the results of Mann-Whitney test (MW) were also shown. ns= not significant statistical analysis

**Table 1.** Viral load (average viral copies for ml) at day 0 and at day 7. The data for 5 and 10 min of sampling, from the residual liquid in the nebulizer, and for the initial dilution prior to testing are reported. Cytopathic effects (CPE) and p-value from the results of Mann–Whitney test (MW) are also shown. ns = not significant statistical analysis.

	10 <sup>5</sup> PFU/mL				10 <sup>4</sup> PFU/mL				10 <sup>3</sup> PFU/mL			
	Day 0	Day 7	CPE	MW	Day 0	Day 7	CPE	MW	Day 0	Day 7	CPE	MW
10' sampling	9.1 × 10 <sup>7</sup>	6.2 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	+	0.0001	4.6 × 10 <sup>6</sup>	1.2 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	-	0.02	9.9 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	9.7 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	-	ns
5' sampling	4.2 × 10 <sup>7</sup>	3.7 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	+	0.001	2.4 × 10 <sup>6</sup>	2.3 × 10 <sup>8</sup>	-	0.02	5.4 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	9.9 × 10 <sup>5</sup>	-	ns
nebulizer after aerosolization	2.1 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	1.6 × 10 <sup>10</sup>	+	0.03	4.1 × 10 <sup>8</sup>	1.4 × 10 <sup>10</sup>	+	0.03	3.4 × 10 <sup>7</sup>	8.2 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	+	0.03
Initial prior to testing	5.1 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	9.1 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	+	ns	4.2 × 10 <sup>8</sup>	1.3 × 10 <sup>10</sup>	+	ns	4.6 × 10 <sup>7</sup>	5.4 × 10 <sup>9</sup>	+	ns

Zupin, L.; Licen, S.; Milani, M.; Clemente, L.; Martello, L.; Semeraro, S.; Fontana, F.; Ruscio, M.; Miani, A.; Crovella, S.; Barbieri, P. Evaluation of Residual Infectivity after SARS-CoV-2 Aerosol Transmission in a Controlled Laboratory Setting. *Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health* 2021, 18, 11172. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph182111172>-  
 Foundation for the setup of Viral Filtration Efficiency assay

***After 7 days gain of log3 viral copies also starting from 10<sup>3</sup>PFU/ml and aerosol exposure of 5 mins***

## SECONDA ONDATA DI COVID19

In ulteriori studi svolti nel *reparto di Malattie Infettive dell'Ospedale Maggiore di Trieste*, è stata applicata la tecnologia del campionamento di aerosol con la tecnologia del *tubo di crescita per condensazione (CGT)* di vapore acqueo in flusso laminare (Pan et al., 2016 DOI: [10.1111/jam.13051](https://doi.org/10.1111/jam.13051)) con **Campionatore Biospot ViVAS**.

I campioni raccolti con questo approccio sembrano essere ideali per la valutazione dell'infettività mediante valutazione dell'Effetto CitoPatico Effect (CPE) su linee cellulari selezionate, poiché nessun impatto sulle superfici solide e forze di taglio trascurabili agiscono sui microrganismi campionati; inoltre, l'efficienza di campionamento si è dimostrata elevata anche per particelle di dimensioni inferiori a 300 nanometri .

La **tecnologia ViVAS** è salutata come **dirompente** dai maggiori scienziati degli aerosol al mondo (J.L. Jimenez (H=117): "*Difficult to sample infectious virus from room air: True, but never done for measles or tuberculosis. Impressive technological advances (ViVAS) were needed, has been done by Lednicky et al. (2020)*").

Il ViableVirusAerosolSampler era stato impiegato con successo per il rilevamento di virus infettivi in stanze d'ospedale

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijid.2020.09.025>



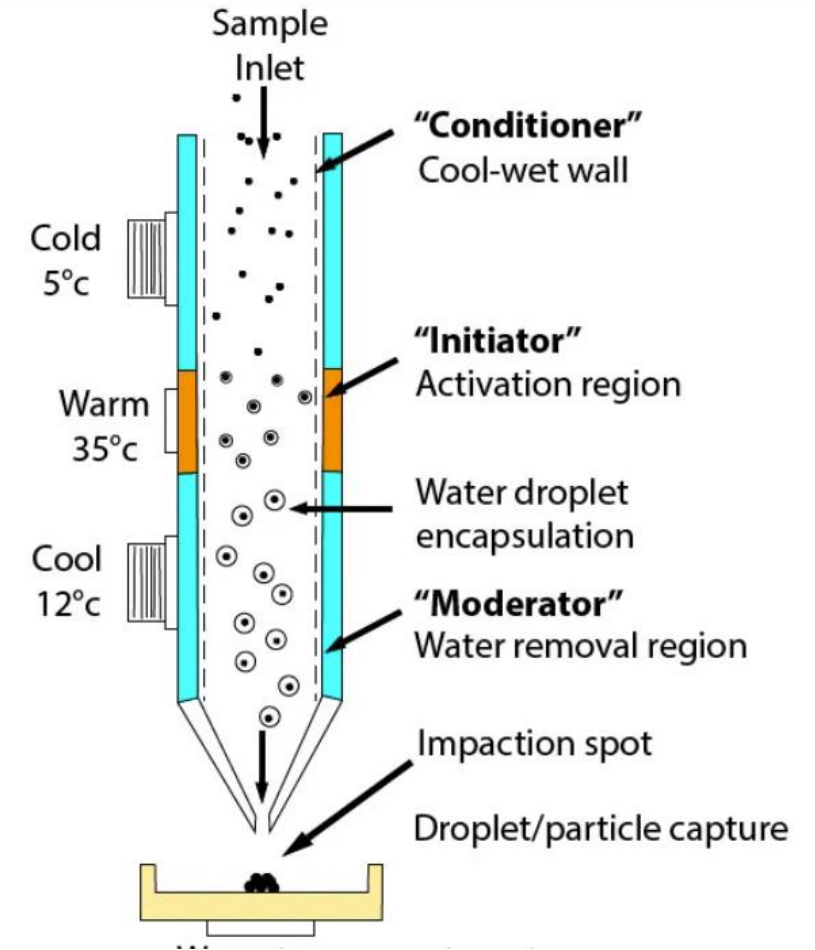
International Journal of Infectious Diseases

Volume 100, November 2020, Pages 476-482



## Viable SARS-CoV-2 in the air of a hospital room with COVID-19 patients

John A. Lednický<sup>a, b, \*</sup>, Michael Lauzardo<sup>b, c</sup>, Z. Hugh Fan<sup>d, e</sup>, Antarpreet Jutla<sup>f</sup>, Trevor B. Tilly<sup>f</sup>, Mayank Gangwar<sup>f</sup>, Moiz Usmani<sup>f</sup>, Sripriya Nannu Shankar<sup>f</sup>, Karim Mohamed<sup>e</sup>, Arantza Eiguren-Fernandez<sup>g</sup>, Caroline J. Stephenson<sup>a, b</sup>, Md. Mahbulul Alam<sup>a, b</sup>, Maha A. Elbadry<sup>a, b</sup>, Julia C. Loeb<sup>a, b</sup>, Kuttichantran Subramaniam<sup>b, h</sup>, Thomas B. Waltzek<sup>b, h</sup>, Kartikeya Cherabuddi<sup>c</sup>, J. Glenn Morris Jr.<sup>b, c</sup>, Chang-Yu Wu<sup>f</sup>



Raccolta di particelle che trasportano agenti patogeni vitali nella capsula di Petri contenente ad es. VTM<sub>24</sub> per valutazione infettività (es. CPE su VERO E6)



# Nuovo lavoro sul campo @SC Malattie Infettiva – Ospedale Maggiore (TS)

## Prima applicazione di tecnologie CGT

### in Italia

(1)

BioSpot-VIVAS™ Bioaerosol Sampler



Aerosol Devices Inc

The BioSpot-VIVAS bioaerosol sampler, provides **high-efficiency, gentle** collection of bioaerosols into a liquid medium. It uses a patented laminar-flow water condensation growth tube (CGT) method.

**High efficiency collection – viruses, bacteria, fungal spores, toxins, proteins, allergens**

<10nm to 10µm, >90% efficiency

**Concentrated samples into liquid for high sensitivity analysis**

**Gentle collection maintains viability**

**Can instantly preserve DNA/RNA**

#### Uses

- Airborne disease transmission
- Environmental microbiome
- Infectious disease surveillance in public, transportation, medical and agricultural settings



BSS310

(2)

## BioFlash Biological Identifier

Mobile, high sensitivity biothreat detector

### Feature Highlights

- Rapid detection capability of airborne SARS-CoV-2
- Able to capture particles up to 10 microns in size
- Compact and lightweight design
- Easy to use and decontaminate
- PCR levels of sensitivity and specificity
- Extremely low false alarm rate
- Enables rapid response to new and emerging pathogens



smiths detection

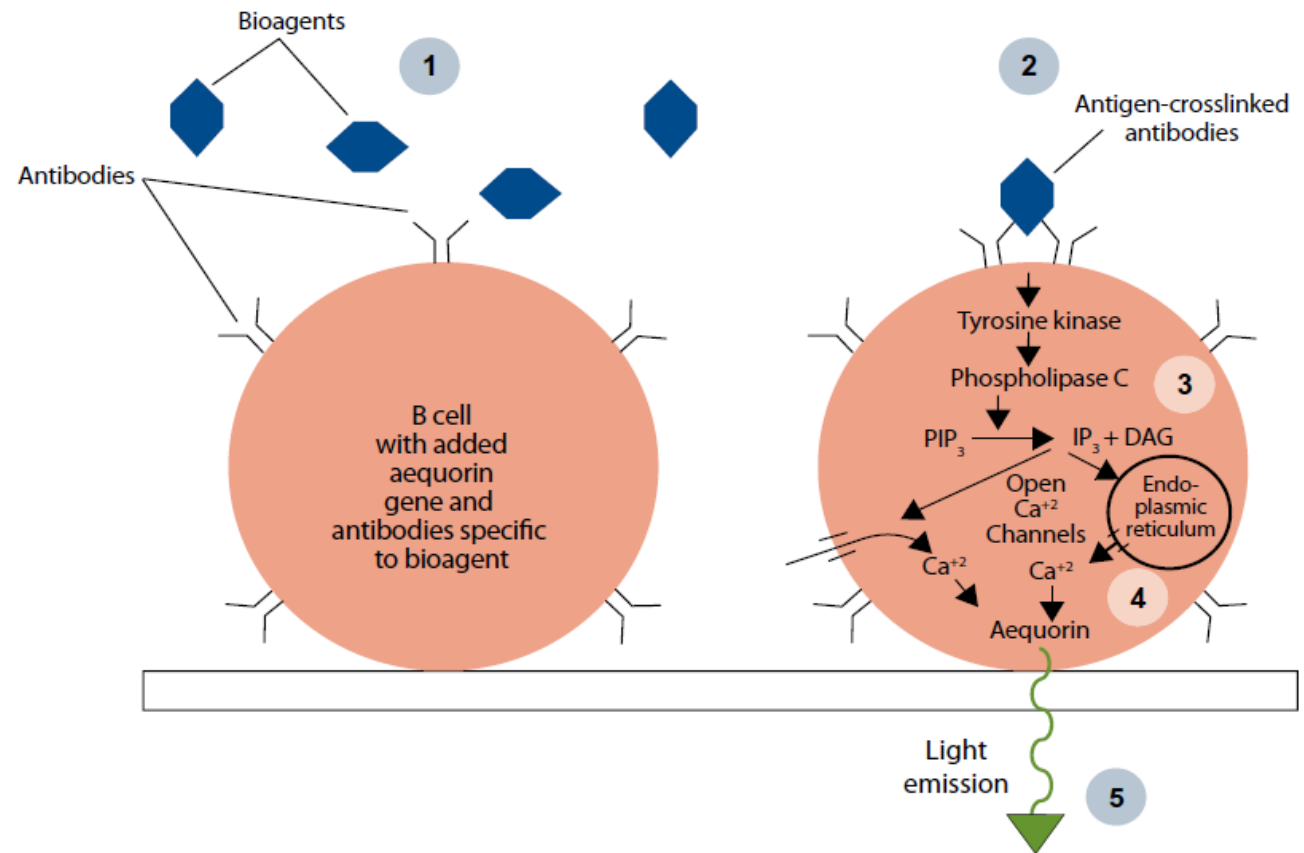
## BioFlash detector PoC per agenti patogeni (es. SARS-CoV-2) nell'aria (2)

Utilizza cellule ingegnerizzate in grado di riconoscere la presenza del virus in 3 minuti nei campioni di aria raccolti.

Tecnologia CANARY- *Cellular Analysis and Notification of Antigen Risks and Yields* (Rider et al., A BCell-Based Sensor for Rapid Identification of Pathogen, Science, 2003 doi:10.1126/science.1084920)

I materiali di consumo sono prodotti negli USA (durata di conservazione 11 giorni) Parte dei campioni di aerosol raccolti (480 LPM) rimane disponibile per la conferma mediante RT-PCR.

(<https://www.smithsdetection.com/helping-detect-covid-19/>)



The fundamental components of the CANARY biosensor include genetically engineered B cells that emit photons upon binding to specific bioagents and a photodetector that measures the luminescence. (1) B cells are exposed to bioagents in test sample, (2) bioagents bind to B-cell antibodies, (3) the biochemical signal transduction cascade is triggered, resulting in Ca<sup>2+</sup> release, (4) Ca<sup>2+</sup> makes aequorin emit photons, and (5) emitted photons are detected.

<b>PATIENTS</b>			Ct swab of patient: date (E,RdRP2/S, N)	Age	Distance Patient-Sampler
#	Sampling date	Room			
1	31/08/2021	3	28/8 → 16 16 16	U25	2,5m
2	03/09/2021	11	2/9 → 36, 39, 37	23/10/1946	2,5m
3	IDEM	11	3/9 → 34.9 33.1	06/08/1928	IDEM
4	04/09/2021	2	10/9 → 18 18 17	30/04/1970	2,5m
5	07/09/2021	12	3/9 → 20 20 20	21/10/1964	2,5m
6	08/09/2021		7/9 → 17 17 16	26/06/1928	2,5m
7	10/09/2021	9	6/9 → 33 34 33	26/04/1964	2,5m
8	IDEM	9	4/9 → 25 27 30	23/09/1988	IDEM
9	14/09/2021	4	to be asked	24/07/1946	2,5m
10	12/10/2021	5	to be asked	to be asked	2,5m



### AMBIENT AIR

#	VIVAS	8LPM								480LPM								CANARY detection	Note
		Sampling duration (Hours)	Sampled volume (m3)	gene E copies/sample	gene N2 copies/sample	gene E copies/m3	gene N2 copies/m3	CPE	BioFlash	Sampling duration (Hours)	Sampled volume (m3)	gene E copies/sample	gene N2 copies/sample	gene E copies/m3	gene N2 copies/m3				
1	Yes	3	1,44	nd	2	nd	1	NO	No										
2	Yes	3	1,44	968	269	672	187	NO	No								*		
3	IDEM	IDEM	IDEM	IDEM	IDEM	IDEM	IDEM	IDEM	IDEM										
4	Yes	3	1,44	269	21	187	15	NO	No										
5	Yes	3	1,44			nd	nd		No										
6	Yes	1	0,6			nd	nd		Yes	0,5	14,4		2	nd	0,4	NO			
7	Yes	2,5	1,2			nd	nd		Yes	2,5	72			nd	nd	failure	**		
8	IDEM	IDEM	IDEM						IDEM	IDEM				IDEM	IDEM	IDEM			
9	No								Yes	0,5	14,4		2		0,4	failure			
10	No								Yes	1,75	50,4	83	13	5,3	0,8	NO			

**PER I PAZIENTI CON Ct INFERIORE A 20, L'RNA VIRALE VIENE RILEVATO NELL'ARIA**

\* one patient intubated and moved from the room during sampling

\*\* sampling interrupted by nurses at 2,5 hours (too much noise from instruments)



# BIOSPOT VIVAS nel reparto di Geriatria dell'Ospedale Maggiore di Trieste

Sample ID: 1  
Test Type: Specimen  
Sample Type:

## Assay Information

Assay	Assay Version
Xpert Xpress SARS-CoV-2	2

Test Result: SARS-CoV-2 PRESUMPTIVE POS

## Analyte Result

Analyte Name	Ct	EndPt	Analyte Result	Probe Check Result
E	39.0	125	POS	PASS
N2	0.0	-1	NEG	PASS

Sample ID: 2  
Test Type: Specimen  
Sample Type:

## Assay Information

Assay	Assay Version
Xpert Xpress SARS-CoV-2	2

Test Result: SARS-CoV-2 PRESUMPTIVE POS

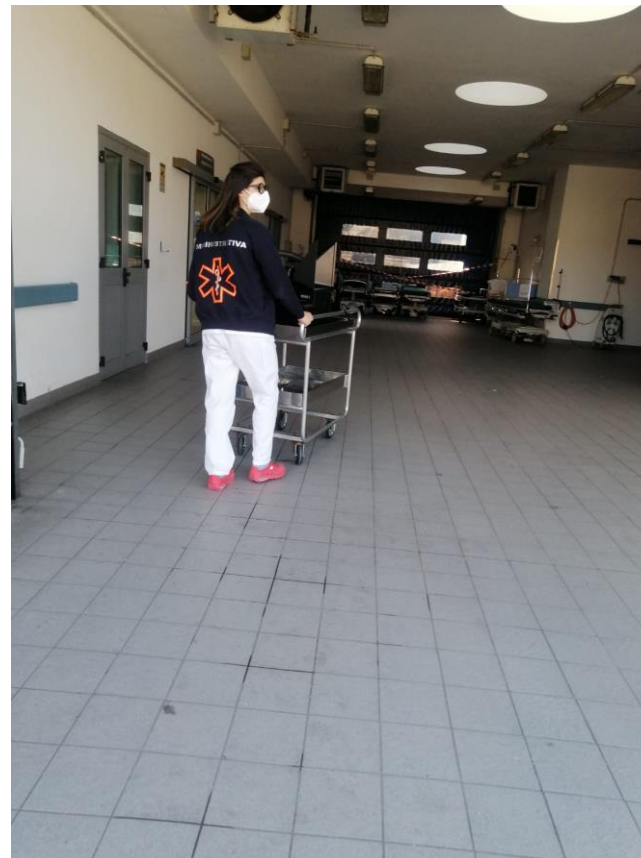
## Analyte Result

Analyte Name	Ct	EndPt	Analyte Result	Probe Check Result
E	38.0	208	POS	PASS
N2	0.0	-5	NEG	PASS

La nostra indagine nelle unità sanitarie ha mostrato la **presenza di RNA di SARS CoV 2 nell'aria** campionata, ma **non infettività** residua nei campioni

Cercando pazienti “freschi” in fase di diffusione virali:  
indagini nei Dipartimenti di Pronto Soccorso negli ospedali a Trieste,  
Monfalcone, Gorizia si trovano raramente tracce:

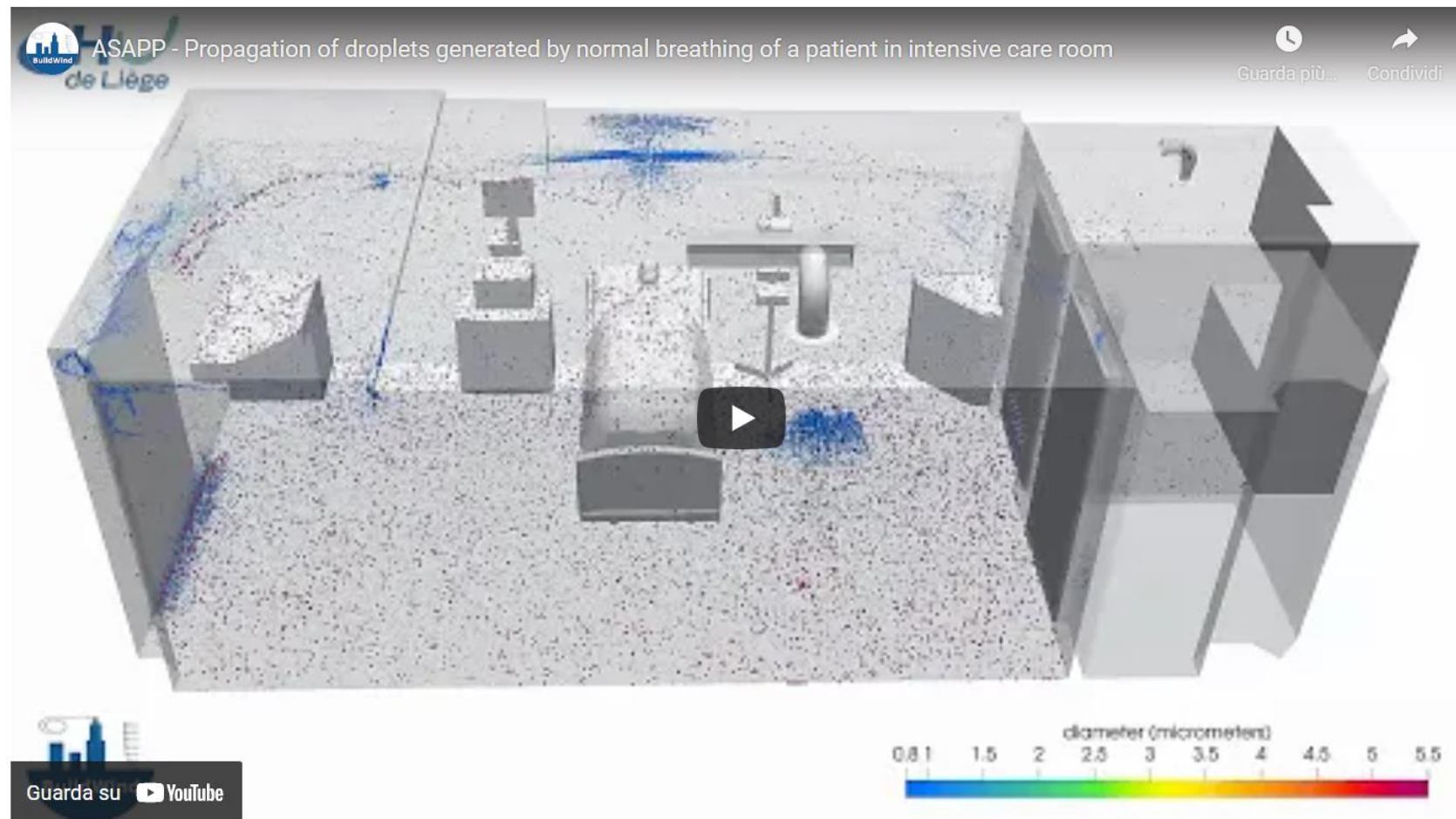
**l'aerazione è importante; efficiente!**



# Sviluppi

Crescita del network, con SIMA, UniMIB, Buildwind, UniBA: proposte di progetto (presenza di aerosol patogeni nell'aria indoor non è eguale ovunque!!!)

<https://www.buildwind.net/asapp/>





**12-13 maggio 2022**

Campionamento con VIVAS  
e Detector Bioflash

Analizzatore di CO2



**Ct Values**

Wedge	Sample Id	Sample Type	S gene (FAM)	ORF1ab (JOE)	RNA IC (Q670)	QC Statement/Notes
1	1	Unknown	33.1	34.5	30	
2	2	Unknown	35.7	0	30.6	
3	3	Unknown	0	0	0	RNA IC: Internal Control Failure
4	4	Unknown	33.2	34.8	30	
5	5	Unknown	0	34.9	29.8	
6	6	Unknown	35.4	33.8	30.3	


#	strum	tipo		data
1	Vivas	campione	vtm	12/05/2022
2	Vivas	campione	vtm	12/05/2022
3	Vivas	trappola	vtm	12/05/2022
4	Bioflash	campione	vtm	12/05/2022
5	Bioflash	campione	vtm	12/05/2022
6	Vivas	campione	vtm	13/05/2022

va ess

d'aria



# CO<sub>2</sub> concentration monitoring inside educational buildings as a strategic tool to reduce the risk of Sars-CoV-2 airborne transmission

Alessia Di Gilio <sup>a</sup> <sup>1</sup> , Jolanda Palmisani <sup>a</sup> <sup>1</sup> , Manuela Pulimeno <sup>b</sup>, Fabio Cerino <sup>c</sup>, Mirko Cacace <sup>c</sup>,  
Alessandro Miani <sup>d</sup>, Gianluigi de Gennaro <sup>a</sup>

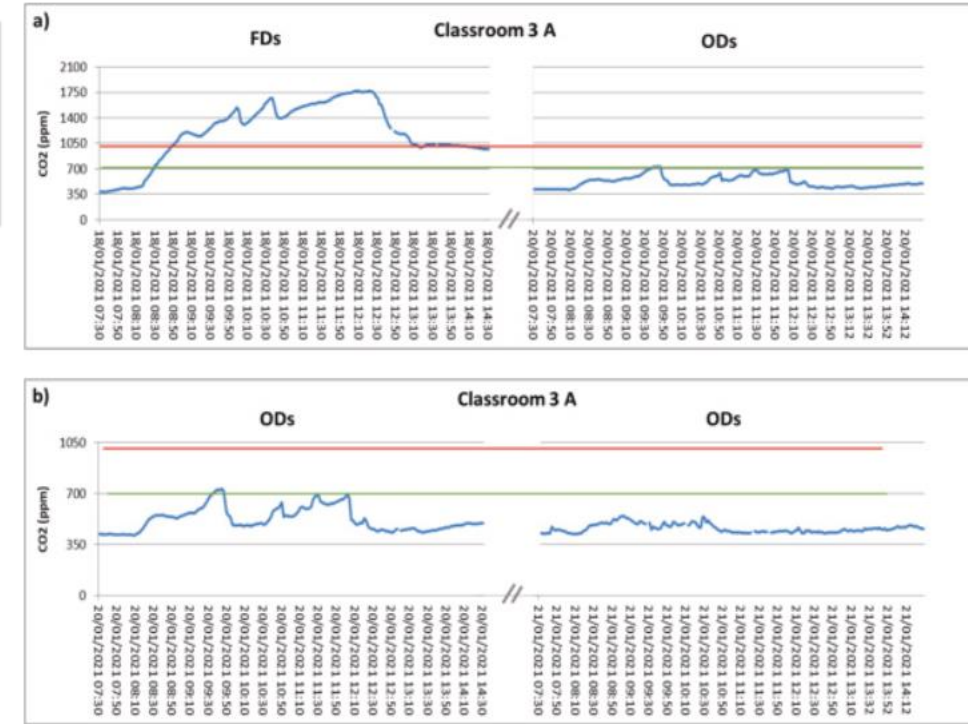


Fig. 4. Evolution of CO<sub>2</sub> levels in the classroom 3A during one of first monitoring days (FDs) and during one of the following days (ODs) when a proper protocol of ventilation was implemented (a) and when the temporal variation of CO<sub>2</sub> concentration has been frequently observed during the school hours thanks to real-time visualization of data (b).



# Un elemento di attenzione: le sale d'aspetto

Monitor CO<sub>2</sub> , Umidità, Temperatura

Per una miglior gestione dei ricambi d'aria

## Attualmente

Dottorato «PON innovazione» su *ricerca metagenomica di batteri e virus patogeni* (anche in **ambienti indoor peculiari, es. trasporti**: tecnologie portatili MD8 Airport; test di prototipi di tecnologie nazionali «portatili»)



**Sorveglianza di comunità**: patogeni convergenti tramite gli scarichi civili nei depuratori di reflui cittadini (es. metagenomica su campioni di aerosol raccolto alle vasche di aereazione)



# ELEMENTI DI NOVITA'

DECRETO-LEGGE 30 aprile 2022, n. 36

Ulteriori misure urgenti per l'attuazione del Piano nazionale di ripresa e resilienza (PNRR). (22G00049) (GU Serie Generale n.100 del 30-  
note: **Entrata in vigore del provvedimento: 01/05/2022**

Capo III  
Misure per l'attuazione del Piano nazionale di ripresa e resilienza in materia di ambiente, fonti rinnovabili, efficientamento energetico e salute

- 23
- 24
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- 26
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Capo IV  
Transizione digitale

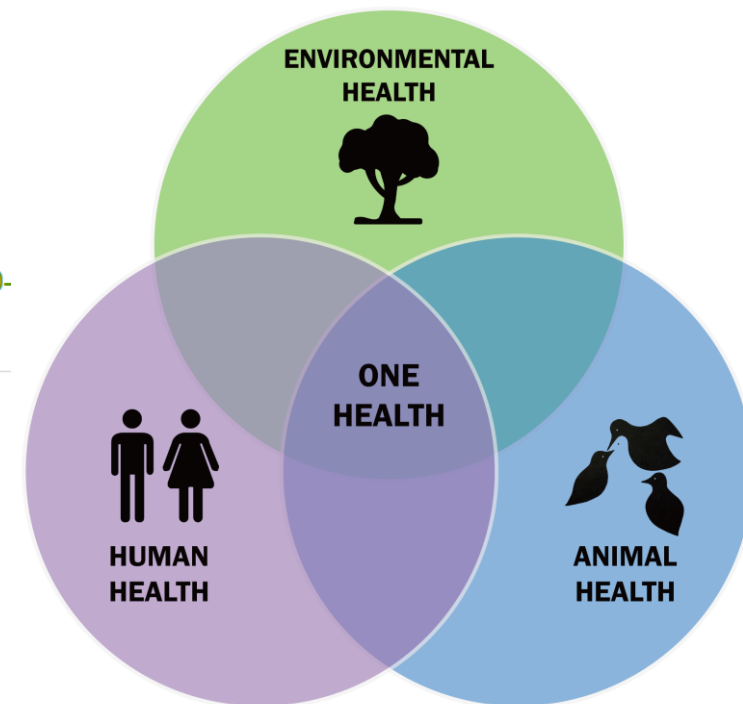
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31

ART. 27

Istituzione del Sistema nazionale prevenzione salute dai rischi ambientali e climatici

1. Allo scopo di migliorare e armonizzare le politiche e le strategie messe in atto dal Servizio sanitario nazionale per la prevenzione, il controllo e la cura delle malattie acute e croniche, trasmissibili e non trasmissibili, associate a rischi ambientali e climatici, e' istituito il Sistema nazionale prevenzione salute dai rischi ambientali e climatici, di seguito «SNPS».

2. Il SNPS, mediante l'applicazione dell'approccio integrato «one-health» nella sua evoluzione «planetary health» e tramite l'adeguata interazione con il Sistema nazionale a rete per la protezione ambientale, di cui alla legge 28 giugno 2016, n. 132, di



RINFORZARE LE SPECIFICITA' PROFESSIONALI  
MA MASSIMIZZARE LE INTERAZIONI INTERPROFESSIONALI  
**ZEITGEIST: IMPARARE A LAVORARE ASSIEME**  
PNRR AIUTA MOLTO – MIGLIORARE L'ORGANIZZAZIONE!

**GRAZIE PER LA VOSTRA ATTENZIONE**  
**ALLA RETE ESTESA PROFESSIONALE E DI RICERCA**  
**ED AI MIEI STRETTI COLLABORATORI,**  
**MIEI BADANTI**

**S.Licen, S.Semeraro, E.Greco, A.S.Gaetano**



*Conoscenza e supporto alle decisioni sono «remo di fatica»*



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche e Farmaceutiche

Corso di Laurea Triennale in Chimica

## CARATTERIZZAZIONE DI NANODROPLETS GENERATE IN LABORATORIO ED IN AMBIENTI INDOOR.

**Laureando:**  
Pietro Rodolfo Natale

**Relatore:**  
Prof. Pierluigi Barbieri

**Correlatrice:**  
Dott.ssa Sabrina Semeraro



Il Fast Mobility Particle Sizer (FMPS) è uno spettrometro capace di misurare la distribuzione dimensionale delle particelle da 5.6 a 560 nm, con una risoluzione totale di 32 canali.

La risoluzione è di 1s e ciò lo rende particolarmente adatto nel settore ambientale in quanto spesso si studiano fenomeni ad elevata variabilità temporale (ex: formazione ed accrescimento di aggregati).

Full length article

# SARS-CoV-2 and other airborne respiratory viruses in outdoor aerosols in three Swiss cities before and during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic















Yile Tao <sup>a, b</sup>, Xiaole Zhang <sup>a, b</sup>, Guangyu Qiu <sup>a, b</sup>, Martin Spillmann <sup>a, b</sup>, Zheng Ji <sup>c</sup>, Jing Wang <sup>a, b</sup>  

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envint.2022.107266>

AEROSOL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
2020, VOL. 54, NO. 5, 465–495  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02786826.2019.1664724>

REVIEW ARTICLE

## Real-time sensing of bioaerosols: Review and current perspectives

J. Alex Huffman <sup>a, b</sup> , Anne E. Perring <sup>c</sup> , Nicole J. Savage <sup>d</sup> , Bernard Clot <sup>e</sup> , Benoît Crouzy <sup>e</sup> , Fiona Tummon <sup>e</sup> , Ofir Shoshanim <sup>f</sup>, Brian Damit <sup>g</sup>, Johannes Schneider <sup>h</sup> , Vasanthi Sivaprakasam <sup>i</sup> , Maria A. Zawadowicz <sup>j</sup>, Ian Crawford <sup>k</sup> , Martin Gallagher <sup>k</sup> , David Topping <sup>k</sup> , David C. Doughty <sup>l</sup> , Steven C. Hill <sup>l</sup> , and Yongle Pan <sup>l</sup> 

Real Time Laser Induced Fluorescence  
Batteri: peaks of tryptophan and NADH emission,



Taylor & Francis  
Taylor & Francis Group

 OPEN ACCESS

 Check for updates

## Regional and global contributions of air pollution to risk of death from COVID-19

Andrea Pozzer <sup>1,2</sup>, Francesca Dominici<sup>3</sup>, Andy Haines<sup>4</sup>, Christian Witt <sup>5</sup>,  
Thomas Münzel <sup>6,7\*</sup>, and Jos Lelieveld <sup>2,8\*</sup>

Debate 2:

**is air pollution related to the COVID-19 spread?**

Better

Is atmospheric Particulate Matter/environmental aerosol playing a role in stabilizing droplet nuclei (viral bioaerosol)?

Severe outbreaks of COVID-19 occurred in areas of the world with poor air quality (es. Wuhan, Po Valley).

Does pollutants (particulate matter) play a role in the spread of the COVID-19?

Several points of view

**Role and characterization of Environmental Aerosols in the spread of SARS-CoV-2**

# Direct effect of pollutants (PM) on health outcomes

(a) Previous exposure to fine dust has resulted in biological damage that makes the human body more susceptible / less resistant to the virus

(b) The fine powders inhaled together with the virus cause biological damage that makes the human body more susceptible / less resistant to the virus

**Classification proposed by G.de Gennaro – University of Bari (Italy)**

## Exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 mortality in the United States: A nationwide cross-sectional study

Xiao Wu, Rachel C Nethery, M Benjamin Sabath, Danielle Braun, Francesca Dominici  
 Xiao Wu, *doctoral student*; Rachel C Nethery, *assistant professor*; Benjamin Sabath, *data scientist*; Danielle Braun, *research scientist*; Francesca Dominici, *Clarence James Gamble professor of biostatistics, population, and data science*, Department of Biostatistics, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston, MA, 02115, USA



## Particulate matter pollution and the COVID-19 outbreak: results from Italian regions and provinces

Vanessa Bianconi<sup>1</sup>, Paola Bronzo<sup>1</sup>, Maciej Banach<sup>2,3</sup>, Amirhossein Sahebkar<sup>4,5</sup>, Massimo R. Mannarino<sup>1</sup>, Matteo Pirro<sup>1</sup>

QIA DP No. 13231  
**Deregulation in a Time of Pandemic: Does Pollution Increase Coronavirus Cases or Deaths?**

Claudia L. Persico  
 Kathryn R. Johnson

## COVID-19 higher morbidity and mortality in Chinese regions with lower air quality

Riccardo Pansini<sup>1,2,3</sup> & Davide Fornacca<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Eastern-Himalaya Biodiversity Research, Dali University, Yunnan, China  
<sup>2</sup> Behavioral and Experimental Economics Research Center, Statistic and Mathematics College, Yunnan University of Finance and Economics, Kunming, China  
<sup>3</sup> Department of Economics and Finance, Global Research Unit, City University of Hong Kong  
<sup>4</sup> Institute for Environmental Sciences, University of Geneva, Switzerland

## Understanding the heterogeneity of adverse COVID-19 outcomes: the role of poor quality of air and lockdown decisions

Leonardo Becchetti\*, *University of Rome Tor Vergata*  
 Gianluigi Conzo, *University of Rome Tor Vergata*  
 Pierluigi Conzo, *University of Turin & Collegio Carlo Alberto*  
 Francesco Salustri, *University of Oxford*



## Association between short-term exposure to air pollution and COVID-19 infection: Evidence from China

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## Can atmospheric pollution be considered a co-factor in extremely high level of SARS-CoV-2 lethality in Northern Italy?\*

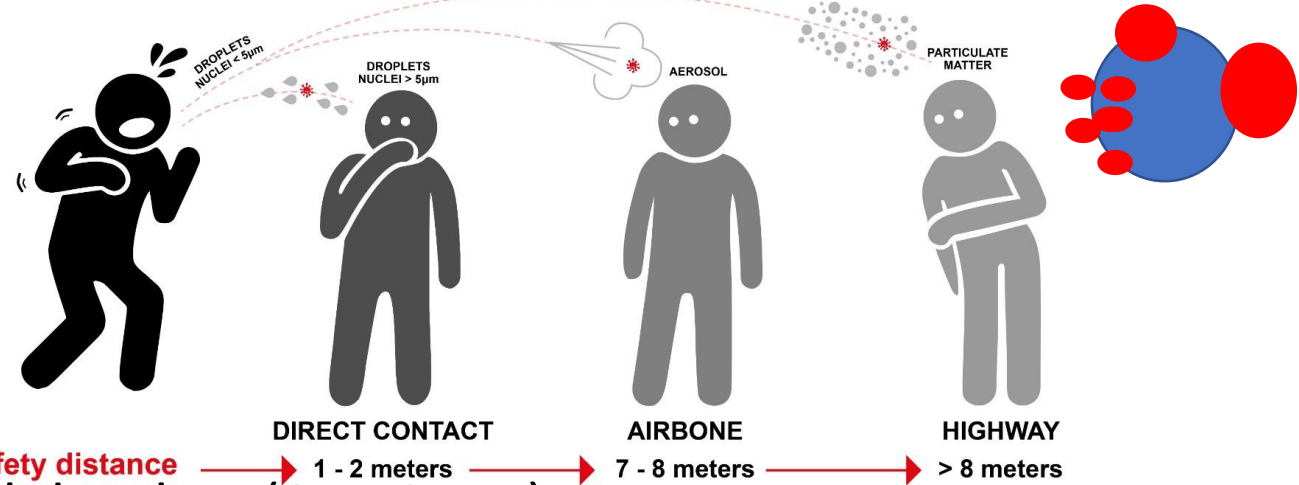
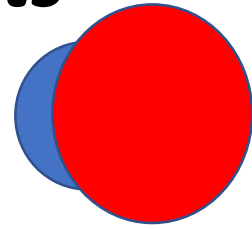
Edoardo Conticini<sup>a</sup>, Bruno Frediani<sup>a</sup>, Dario Caro<sup>b,\*</sup>

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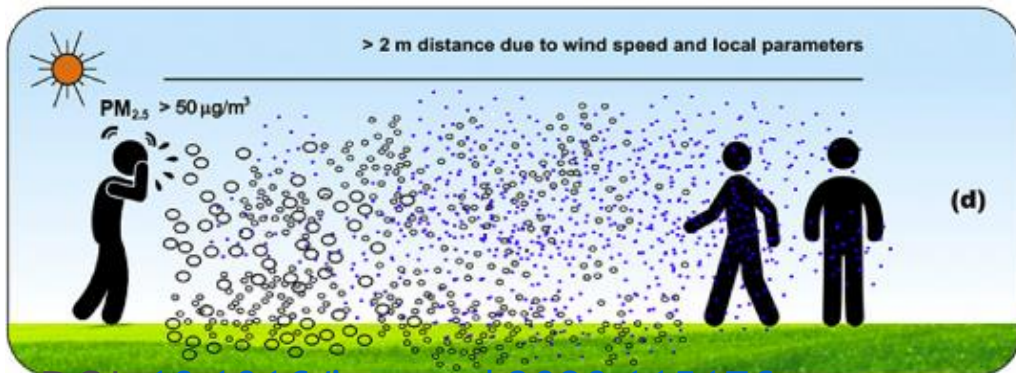
## Role and characterization of Environmental Aerosols in the spread of SARS-CoV-2



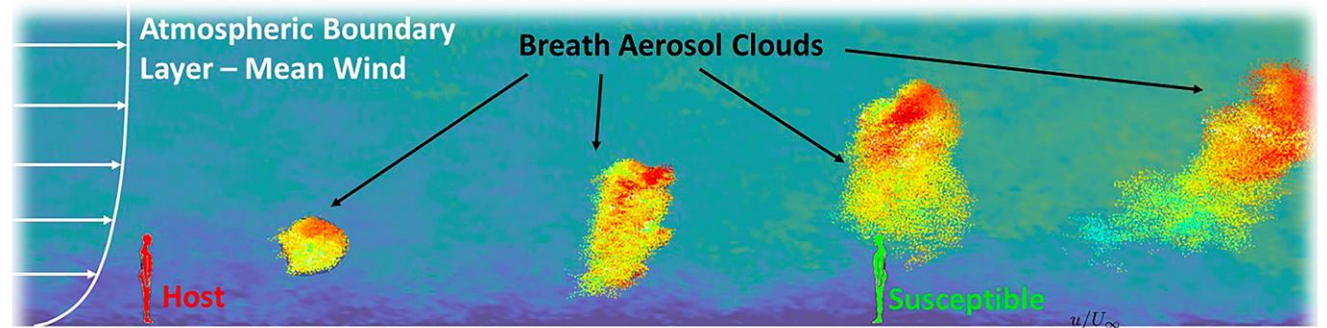
# Air Particulate Matter may interact with viral droplets and nuclei: three effects



- **Primary carrier effect** - coalescence of viral droplets (0.5 -2 µm) with finer particulate < 1 µm, **stabilization and confinement**, bigger distances covered, contagion of persons and surfaces (fomites)
- **Precipitation effect** - coalescence of viral droplets (> 0,5 µm) with finer particulate ( $\Sigma m$ ) > 10 µm; precipitation on soils and surfaces contagion of surfaces (fomites)
- **Virus resuspension** – aerosolization of fomites



DOI: [10.1016/j.envpol.2020.115176](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envpol.2020.115176)



Graphic by Linsey Marr, August 26, 2020. Aerosols and Transmission of Respiratory Viruses 101.

DOI: [10.1063/5.0025476](https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0025476)

0.5 1.2

# But the role of air particulate matter /dust can be more complex in the COVID spread



## An Imperative Need for Research on the Role of Environmental Factors in Transmission of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

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February 2020

 Cite This: *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 2020, 54, 3730–3732

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A further transmission route could be via airborne dust. It is considered that microorganisms in airborne particulate matters (PM) or dust is linked to infectious diseases.<sup>5</sup> Poor nationwide air pollution is frequent in some developing countries, and the role of air PM and dust in the transmission of COVID-19 infection remains uninvestigated. Inhalation of virus-laden fine particles could transport the virus into deeper alveolar and tracheobronchial regions, which could increase the chance of infective transmission. Adsorption of the COVID-19 virus on airborne dust and PM could also contribute to long-range transport of the virus. Therefore, investigations on adsorption, survival, and behavior of the COVID-19 virus with the surface of PM are needed to help to understand the role of air PM pollution in COVID-19 transmission.

Role and characterization of Environmental Aerosols in the spread of SARS-CoV-2

# Air Particulate Matter may interact with viral droplets and nuclei

PM – viral droplets interaction - leading to confinement and stabilization of the virus - is **probable in confined / indoor environment**, but if outdoor environment has low mixing layer and very high number of PM (e.g. Po Valley), a «boost effect» for infection can occur.

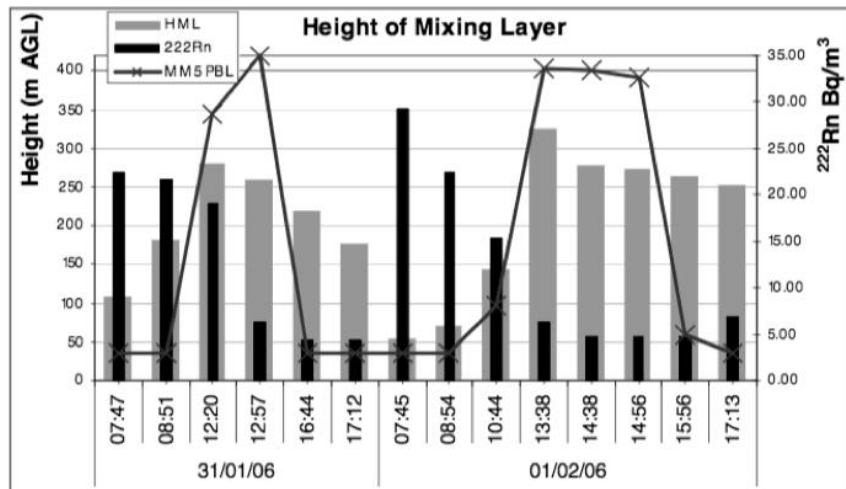
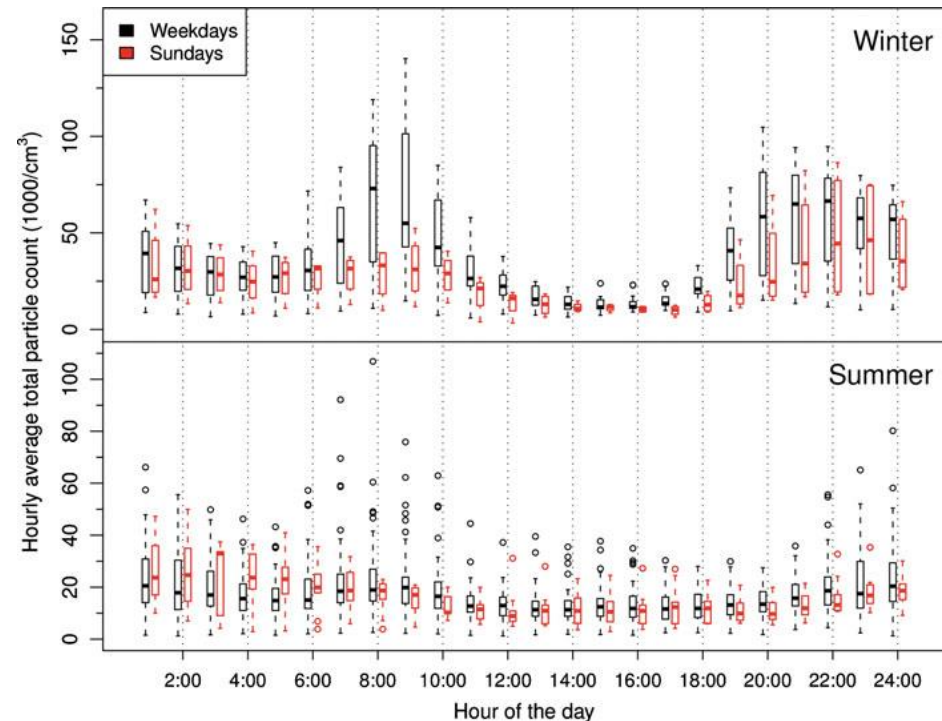
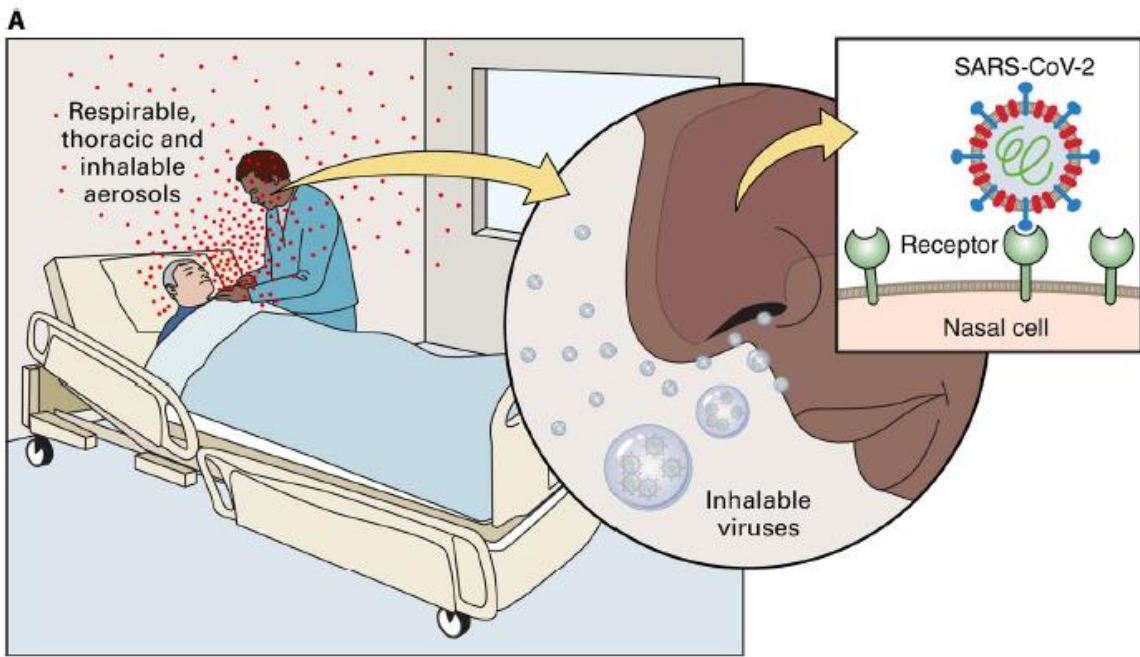


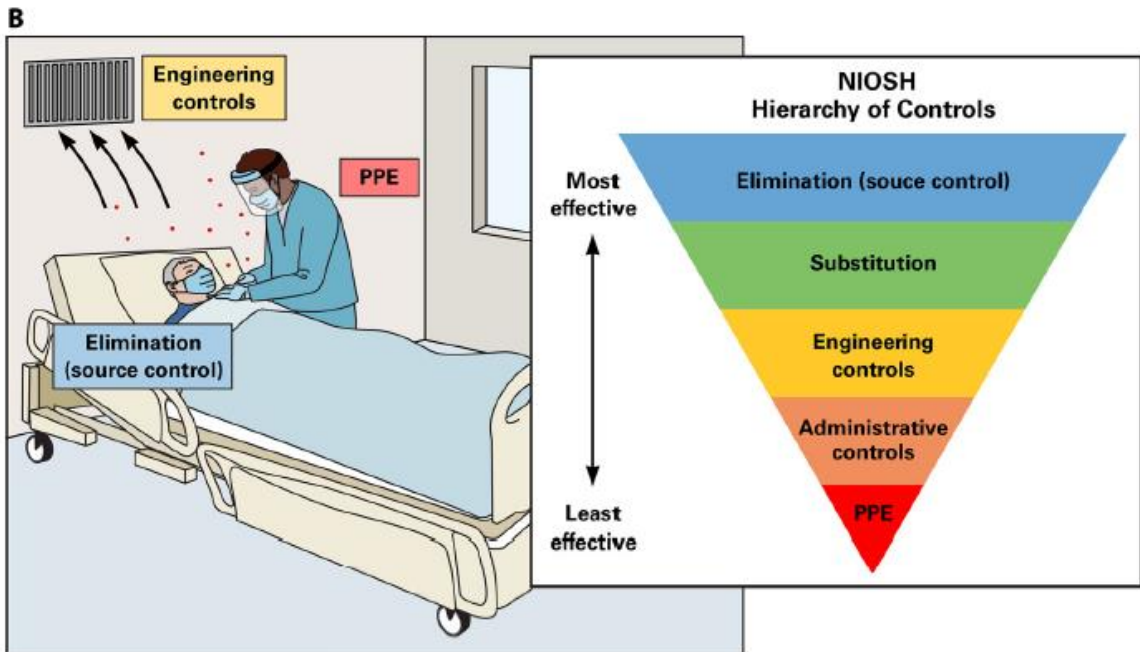
Fig. 1 Heights of ML measured by vertical profiles; MM5 PBL height predictions and <sup>222</sup>Rn measurements.





## SARS-CoV-2 and Health Care Worker Protection in Low-Risk Settings: a Review of Modes of Transmission and a Novel Airborne Model Involving Inhalable Particles

X. Sophie Zhang,<sup>a,b,c,d</sup> Caroline Duchaine<sup>e,f</sup>



**FIG 1** A broader airborne model involving inhalable aerosols for SARS-CoV-2 transmission in low-risk health care settings. (A) Worst-case scenario: no protection on either the sick patient (source) or the health care worker (exposure), emission of particles of various sizes (droplets and aerosols) during natural respiratory activity (breathing, talking, and coughing), entry of infectious inhalable aerosols, and impaction in the nose where viral receptors are abundant and infectivity is greatest. (B) Best-case scenario and NIOSH hierarchy of controls: source control (mask-wearing by the sick patient), engineering control (optimal ventilation), and exposure control (droplet-contact PPE worn by the health care worker) to prevent short-range droplet and inhalable aerosol transmission.