

The Effect of Exercise on Nasal Absorption of Ozone in Healthy Human Adults

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The nose may help protect the lower respiratory tract from the effects of ambient ozone by scrubbing ozone from inspired air. Reductions in both nasal resistance and nitric oxide production with exercise may influence the efficiency of ozone uptake in the nose. Nasal ozone uptake was measured in ten healthy volunteers before and after 15 minutes of moderate, bicycle exercise. Ozone (0.2ppm) was pulled through both nostrils and out of the mouth at a constant flow while the subjects closed their epiglottis. Nasal uptake of ozone was determined by comparing the ozone concentration entering the nostrils to that exiting the mouth. Average pre-exercise uptake of ozone was 56% (+/- 7.8) and 37% (+/- 4.9) at 10 and 20 l/min, respectively. These averages did not significantly differ from those immediately post-exercise (55% and 37%). Nasal ozone uptake increased significantly ($p < 0.001$) with decreasing flow rate, but intersubject variability in uptake could not be predicted by nasal volume or cross-sectional areas (as measured by acoustic rhinometry), or endogenous nitric oxide production. However, the percent change in ozone uptake after exercise, within an individual, was correlated with both 1) percent change in nasal volume ($r = 0.70$ at 10 l/min) and 2) percent change in the rate of volumetric expansion between the nasal valve and turbinates ($r = 0.82$ at 10 l/min). These results may be useful for assessing human risk associated with ozone exposure

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Nasal Effects of VOCs and Ozone

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RATIONALE Volatile organic compounds (VOCs) may contribute to the nasal symptoms that are prominent in indoor air complaints. A mixture of 22 VOCs has been associated with nasal irritation and increased PMNs in nasal lavage (NAL). Unsaturated VOCs and ozone react to form particles, aldehydes and other irritating compounds. We hypothesized that exposure to 23 VOCs and ozone (VOCO) would cause more nasal irritation and inflammation than VOCs or clean air (CA). **METHODS** In a repeated measures design, 62 healthy women completed (to date) three 3-hour exposure conditions. Subjects were screened for atopy by questionnaire and RAST, and stratified as high and low chemical odor intolerance (CI) based on self-report. VOCs and ozone were maintained in the exposure chamber at 7 ppm and 40 ppb, respectively. The CA exposure was effectively masked with a pulse of VOC mixture (0.7ppm) at the onset of the exposure condition. Symptoms were rated before, during, and after exposure. NAL fluid, collected before and after exposure, was analyzed for PMNs, IL-6 and IL-8. **RESULTS** Measurements confirmed the formation of aldehydes and reactive particles during the VOCO condition. We found no significant differences in total symptoms or nasal symptoms between VOCO, VOC and CA conditions, nor did we find differences in markers of nasal inflammation between conditions. There were no increases in these measures for hi- vs. low-CI, or for atopic vs. non-atopic subjects. **CONCLUSIONS** Effective blinding to the exposure conditions, absent in prior studies showing positive results, may explain the negative symptom findings, but physiologic discrepancies with prior research lack clear explanations.

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Ozone Alters the Differentiation of PGP 9.5 Positive Ciliated Epithelial Cells in the Airways of Infant Rhesus Monkeys

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Epidemiological studies indicate that ozone (O₃) exposure during childhood results in decrements of lung function. This is supported by recent experimental data showing that O₃ exposure during postnatal lung development leads to airways remodeling including diminished epithelial innervation and a corresponding increase in the number of protein gene product 9.5 (PGP 9.5) positive epithelial cells. This study was designed to test the hypothesis that O₃-induced increases in PGP 9.5 cells in postnatal rhesus monkeys is caused by retarded lung development. We compared airways from 6-month-old and 5-day-old monkeys using markers for PGP 9.5, a widespread neuronal marker, serotonin (5HT) for neuroendocrine cells (NECs), and beta tubulin to identify cilia. Left cranial lobes from 5-day-old monkeys housed in filtered air (FA) and 6-month-old monkeys exposed to FA or O₃ for 11 episodes (5days at 0.5 ppm, 8 hrs/day) were inflated fixed with paraformaldehyde, dissected to expose the airway tree, processed for whole mount immunohistochemistry, and imaged by confocal microscopy. In 5-day-old monkeys, there were focal areas of PGP 9.5 positive/5HT negative ciliated epithelial cells organized in strips running parallel with the airway. The 6-month FA controls lacked the cells seen in the 5-day-old monkeys, however, they did have a typical population of non-ciliated NECs. In the 6-month O₃ exposed monkeys, there were substantial localized strips of PGP 9.5 positive/5HT negative ciliated epithelial cells with intermingled NECs. We conclude that O₃ retards the normal differentiation of PGP 9.5 positive ciliated epithelial cells in the airways of infant rhesus monkeys.

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Sex-Specific Induction of Pulmonary Glutathione S-Transferase (GST) and CYP2F2 after Chronic Pre and Postnatal Exposure to Sidestream Tobacco Smoke (TS)

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The lung is capable of substantial metabolic bioactivation and detoxification chemicals by enzymes that shift in abundance during lung development. The effect a lifetime of exposure to TS on these enzymes by sex in the mouse lung is not known. We used aged and diluted TS to determine the effect of chronic exposure during lung development on pulmonary expression of GST and CYP2F2. Male and female mice were exposed to either 1 mg/m³ TS or filtered air (FA) 5 d per wk starting at 6 d gestational age and continuing until adulthood. Pulmonary morphology was evaluated using high resolution histopathology. Distribution and abundance of CYP2F2 and GST alpha and pi enzymes was defined using immunohistochemistry. CYP2F2 was quantified using laser capture microdissection and Taqman RT-PCR. TS produced increases in immune and neuroendocrine cells in both sexes. High levels of GSTs and CYP2F2 were found in the conducting airway epithelium. Expression of CYP2F2 was elevated in female, but not male, mice exposed to TS, particularly in terminal bronchiolar epithelium. GST pi was lowest in the FA female less than TS female=FA male less than male. The expression of the GST mu and alpha did not differ by sex but increased distribution and abundance in response to TS. We conclude that chronic TS exposure during lung development alters steady state protein expression of xenobiotic metalizing and detoxifying enzymes and that these effects differ by gender. This may result in a mismatch in metabolic activation/detoxification that renders females more susceptible than males to compounds that are activated by CYP2F2 and detoxified by GST

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A Dynamic Nonlinear Model of Ozone-Induced FEV1 Response under Changing Exposure Conditions

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Ozone exposure results in FEV1 decrements which are a function of ozone concentration (C), minute ventilation, time, and age. We have previously identified a two-compartment dynamic exposure-response model which accurately predicted mean FEV1 change as a function of these variables for two-hour controlled ozone exposures. The purpose of the present analysis was to determine whether a similar but improved, model could accurately describe FEV1 responses from an expanded group of 15 existing studies including some of longer duration, some with changing activity patterns, and some which include measures made during recovery in clean air. Participants were healthy, white males, ages 18-35 yrs, exposed under various conditions (C=0.0 to 0.4 ppm, activity level = rest to heavy exercise, exposure 1 to 7.6 hrs, recovery = 0.5 to 3.3 hr). A total of 3502 observations were provided by 547 participants. The data were successfully fit to the nonlinear mixed effect model using SAS proc NL MIXED with all coefficients observed to be statistically significant. Response decreased by 3.9% (95% CI= 1.8 to 6.1%) per year increased age, and the time constant of the first compartment was 4.1 hr (95% CI 3.6 to 4.6). The model described the 3502 responses accurately with the exception of some underprediction at the highest dose rates. We concluded that this model is capable of accurately describing response to ozone across the range of conditions in these studies, and we hypothesize that it is capable of predicting FEV1 response over time as a result of the dynamic ozone exposure conditions experienced in environment. This abstract of a proposed presentation does not necessarily represent EPA policy.

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Ambient Air Quality in the Vicinity of Large Swine Production Facilities

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The industrialization of livestock production has led to concern over public health impacts from air emissions. Hazardous emissions from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) include gases, bioaerosols, odors, and other semi-volatile organic compounds. While research has established that these emissions are occupational hazards, there is less known about adverse effects on surrounding communities. Methods: Iowa CAFOs were selected and the downwind ambient air monitored at the nearest public use area. Along with meteorological conditions, analytes measured included odor, hydrogen sulfide (H₂S), ammonia, inhaled particulate, volatile organic compounds, and bioaerosols including endotoxins, fungi, mesophilic bacteria, and gram-negative bacteria. Results: Downwind monitoring distances ranged from 23 to 418m. Meteorologic conditions varied widely (temperature (range: 12-33°C), relative humidity (range: 37-97%) and wind speed during sampling (range: 1-8 m/s). The maximum 1 hr time-weighted average concentration was 68 ppb, however, most sites ranged between 6-14 ppb. Endotoxin ranged from 4-3371 EU/m³ and one-third of the sites exceeded 200 EU/m³. Inhalable particulate ranged from below detection to 576 µg/m³ with most sites showing levels between 75-300 µg/m³. Odor levels generally tracked with H₂S. Airborne gram-negative enteric bacteria averaged 1.1x10³ CFU/m³ while mesophilic bacteria averaged 2.0x10³ CFU/m³. The mean concentration of culturable fungi was 5.2x10³ CFU/m³. Conclusion: This study demonstrates that off-site concentrations of gases, particulates and bioaerosols occurring downwind from CAFOs are levels high enough to cause health concerns.

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