

Combined exposure to transportation sources, the built environment and health: a lifespan perspective.

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Abstract

Exposures from transportation sources (air pollution, noise, vibration) are associated with a number of direct health effects, which often interact with less optimal planning of the built environment, resulting in further indirect effects from social segregation, heat islands, loss of green space and less physical activity. The result is a substantial overall public health impact, as recent integrated health risk assessments of transportation indicate. The new WHO-guidelines on noise from October 2018 further indicate that the effects of transportation noise has been underestimated during the past 20 years. In combination, direct and indirect exposures are responsible for an additional impact on a wide variety of health endpoints with enormous public health importance. As the effects start already early in life, a lifespan perspective in ageing societies is required.

The current state of knowledge asks for a change in transport planning and policies towards more health promoting strategies in land use and the design of the built environment to regain a sustainable perspective.

Keywords: *Transportation, noise, vibration, air pollution, green space, health, lifespan*

Biography

Prof. Lercher has a background in general medicine, hygiene, social medicine and environmental health.

Participation in various international/EU projects (ENNAH, COST action TD 0804 "Soundscape of European Cities and Landscapes")

Editor of various special issues (recently: "WHO Noise and Health Evidence Reviews" in IJERPH)

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