

SOURCE APPORTIONMENT OF PM₁₀ PERSONAL EXPOSURE OF AN ELDERLY POPULATION IN ONE COMMUNITY, TIANJIN

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Background and Aims: Studies on personal exposure were in need to better understand and analyze source apportionment of PM₁₀ personal exposure, especially for the elderly. The object of this study was to collect personal exposure samples to PM₁₀ of the elderly livings in one community in Tianjin and to identify their potential personal exposure sources.

Methods: In this study, a total of 80 elderly participants were selected and monitored in August and September, 2009. 24-h average particulate matter personal exposure and simultaneously compared with residential indoor and outdoor PM₁₀ concentrations were measured in Tianjin, China, together with 24-h time-activity patterns collected. Ratio method and PCA receptor model were implied to analyze related sources and contributions.

Results: Using ratio method, it was found that the ratio of OC and EC were more than 2, and the NO₃/SO₄²⁻ ratio were relatively lower, besides, PM₁₀ indoor exposure contributed more to PM₁₀ personal exposure than PM₁₀ outdoor exposure. PCA receptor model showed that seven sources were resolved, namely metal smelting, motor vehicle emission and nitrate, combustion, soil, industrial sources (mainly steel-making), second sulfate and indoor re-suspended particulate matter.

Conclusions: The second organic pollution may be existed to personal exposure. The stationary emissions were a dominant source of PM₁₀ personal exposure. Metal smelting, motor vehicle emission and nitrate, combustion were identified as principal sources of personal exposure to PM₁₀.

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