



On the health effects of transported and resuspended dusts

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In the Mediterranean area people are often exposed to high levels of both transported mineral dust and to resuspended urban dust. High exposure to particulate matter is a known risk factor to exposed population, but the detailed understanding of how these dusts affect health remain elusive. In this talk I will describe two aspects of how dust may impact health. First, transport of bacteria by desert dust and its effects on the local microbiome will be described. Then, we will describe the biological effects due to exposing water soluble extracts of fresh and aged dust particles from the Israeli Negev Desert to alveolar macrophages.