

CONFERENCE – WORKSHOP
Thursday April 24th – Friday 25th 2008

Beyond Frontiers: Atherosclerosis and Air Pollution

**A Conference - Workshop hosted by CREAL in collaboration
with IMIM and the HERACLES Network**

Nino Künzli, ICREA Research Professor at the Center for Research in
Environmental Epidemiology (CREAL), Barcelona
Conference Chair

Jaume Marrugat, Professor of Epidemiology
Unitat de Lipids i Epidemiologia Cardiovascular, IMIM, Barcelona
Conference Co-Chair

Scientific Committee

Roberto Elosua, IMIM, Barcelona Spain
 Joel Kaufman, University of Washington, Seattle USA
 Nino Künzli, CREAL, Barcelona Spain
 Jaume Marrugat, IMIM, Barcelona Spain

Objective: Ambient air pollution is the most abundant environmental exposure with the entire population being exposed at some level over life time. It is a particularly relevant issue for Barcelona and other cities in the South where pollution levels are well above standards recommended by the World Health Organization to protect public health. Most recently, animal studies conducted in Canada, the U.S., and Brazil suggested air pollution to contribute to atherosclerosis – the most important underlying pathophysiology of cardiovascular diseases. New research is needed to investigate the environmental causes of atherosclerosis in humans.

The purpose of the Conference (Day 1) is to review the state of evidence and open questions linking ambient pollution with atherogenesis. The conference is open to the scientific community (no fee). The workshop (Day 2) aims at developing a European collaborative research agenda on the environmental causes of atherogenesis. Registration to the workshop is limited but free.

**Separate registrations are required for Conference and
Workshop – please register before March 31st, 2008**

Send to: Anna Sillero, CREAL · Centre de Recerca en Epidemiologia Ambiental, PRBB ·
C/ Doctor Aiguader, 88· 08003 Barcelona, Tel 0034 – 933160610 or asillero@imim.es

Conference Registration: EARLY REGISTRATION (UNTIL MARCH 31st) IS FREE

Late registration after March 31st : 80,00 EURO (incl. sandwich lunch)

Workshop registration: free – restricted to 25 participants

Conference and Workshop are supported by a grant of the
Spanish Ministry of Education and Sciences (MEC) and by CREAL

Preliminary Programme of the CONFERENCE (DAY 1)

Beyond Frontiers: Atherosclerosis and Air Pollution

Thursday April 24th 2008, 9:00 – 17:30 h

Min.	Start	Topic	Speaker
5'	9:00	Welcome address – CREAL	Josep Antó, Director CREAL
10'	9:10	Introduction into conference and workshop	Nino Künzli, CREAL
30	9:20	Atherosclerosis – a complex disease	Murray Mittleman, Harvard Medical School, Boston USA
30	9:50	Risk factors, Cardiovascular Disease an the Mediterranean Paradox	Jaume Marrugat, IMIM, Barcelona
30	10:20	Measuring atherosclerosis in epidemiological studies: options, strengths, and limitations	Joel Kaufman, University of Washington, Seattle, USA
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	10:50	COFFEE BREAK	
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30	11:30	Ultrasound measurements of the vascular bed: Options and challenges for multi-centre studies: where do we stand?	Eric de Groot, Amsterdam Medical Centre, The Netherlands
30	12:00	Biomarkers of atherosclerosis: where do we stay – where should we go?	TBC Stefan Blankenberg, Johannes Gutenberg- University Mainz, Germany NOT CONF.
30	12:30	Genes, Pathways, and Statistics: Challenges for study design and analyses	Duncan Thomas, University of Southern California, USC Los Angeles, USA
30	13:00	Characterizing long-term exposure to local ambient air pollution: current paradigms and lose ends	TBC Bert Brunekreef / Gerard Hoek, IRAS Utrecht, The Netherlands
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	13:30	LUNCH BUFFET ON THE PRBB OCEAN-SIDE TERRACE	

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AFTERNOON

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| 25 | 14:45 | Atherogenicity of ambient pollutants: which pollutants and what effects? Review of the current evidence from animal studies | Jesus Araujo, David Geffen School of Medicine, University of California Los Angeles, USA |
| 25 | 15:10 | Acute cardiovascular effects of air pollution: how may the evidence link to atherogenesis? | Annette Peters, GSF Munich, Germany |
| 25 | 15:35 | Air pollution and atherosclerosis in humans: epidemiological evidence and expectations | Barbara Hoffmann, University Clinics Essen, Germany |
| 25 | 16:00 | Tackling gen-environment interactions in atherogenesis reaserach: where do we stay? | Roberto Elosua, IMIM, Barcelona |
| 60 | 16:25 | Discussion: Future needs, gaps, opportunities, lose ends | All |
| | 17:30 | END OF THE CONFERENCE | |
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20:30 DINNER

(40,00 € flat fee)

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Workshop

Atherogenesis and the environment - Future research

Friday, April 25th, 2008

9:00 to 16:15 with coffee and lunch buffet break

Center for Research in Environmental Epidemiology (CREAL) PRBB,
C/ Doctor Aiguader 88, 08003 Barcelona

HOSTED BY

Nino Künzli, ICREA Research Professor at CREAL,
Joel Kaufman, University of Washington,
Jaume Marrugat and Roberto Elosua, Unitat de Lipids i Epidemiologia
Cardiovascular, IMIM

The Conference on the previous day provides input for this workshop. The purpose of this day is to discuss and prepare the grounds for launching a new interdisciplinary European project on atherosclerosis and the environment. The following issues will be addressed either in sub-group or plenary discussions:

- Study design, selected populations
- Main outcomes and its measurements
- Co-variates: musts and wants; measurements
- susceptibility factors
- Biomarkers
- Exposure assessment strategies

Workshop attendance is free, but restricted to ~25 participants (first come - first served). For further information or if you want to make a short 5' input presentation on related topics please contact Nino Kuenzli: kuenzli@imim.es. Participants will receive background material in the week before the workshop.

Program:

8:45	Introduction -Nino Künzli
9:00-10:00 max.	TBD – inputs
10:00-12:00	Populations, design, outcome measures, biomarkers
13:00-16:00	Exposure assessment, funding strategies, decisions, next steps
16:15	End of Workshop

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