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Impact of pollution on Allergy/immunology

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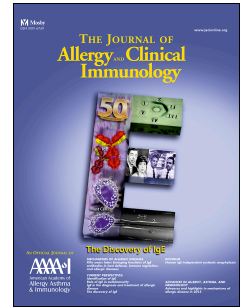
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20 No conflicts of interest

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24 Of all the recognized medical specialties in the United States, Allergy and Immunology has most

25 regularly paid attention to environmental factors which impact disease, and incorporated

26 environmental control as an important part of disease management. Traditionally,

27 allergy/immunology has focused on indoor environmental controls, primarily for reduction of

28 allergen exposure, but also to decrease other airway irritants, most notably secondhand

29 tobacco smoke. More recently however, research by our specialty and others have shown that

30 outdoor air pollutants, most significantly ozone and particulate matter, is clearly associated

31 with increased asthma morbidity, with increased medication use, emergency and acute care

32 visits and hospitalizations (1,2).

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