Environmental Health Risks in European Birth Cohorts (ENRIECO)

Summary:
ENRIECO was funded by the European Union's 7th Framework Programme [Theme 6, Environment]. The objective of the project was to advance the knowledge on causal exposure-response relationships in environment and health of children and adolescents using data from over 19 European pregnancy and birth cohorts. In a systemic review the Institute of Epidemiology, Social Medicine and Health Economics found that chronic noise exposure during pregnancy was not associated with adverse pregnancy outcomes. However, there was an association of chronic noise exposure in children and adolescents and elevated blood pressure and stress hormone levels in this subgroup. The Institute coordinated three combined analyses of data of up to 19 birth cohorts, investigating the environmental exposures, dampness/mold and tobacco smoke. It was found that early exposure to mold and dampness was associated with an increased risk of asthma in preschool and school children. Maternal smoking during pregnancy was associated with an increased risk of asthma symptoms in early childhood.

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