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This thesis aims to explore the associations between subjective and objective exposures to airborne small particulate matter and its impact on respiratory symptoms, lung function, and respiratory diseases.

In this thesis we investigate the impact of desert exposure on Swedish soldiers by measuring the prevalence of respiratory symptoms and the risk of developing respiratory symptoms, lung function impairment, and airway inflammation, measured as FeNO. Then we focus on occupational exposure to silica, wood, and paper dust and its associations with respiratory symptoms and lung function. Finally, we assess the effects of traffic and occupational exposure on self-reported respiratory symptoms, asthma, and chronic bronchitis in a multi-center Swedish population.

The findings highlight the need for pollution reduction measures and thorough exposure histories when managing respiratory symptoms amongst patients.

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Doctoral Dissertation

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*Medical Science with a specialisation in Medicine*



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