





Health effects of inhaled ultrafine particles in the lungs and secondary target organs like brain and heart.

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- Translocation and accumulation of nanoparticles (NP) in secondary target organs of rats after inhalation of
 - iridium (Ir); macroscopic view
 - elemental carbon (EC); macroscopic view
 - titanium dioxide (TiO₂) NP; microscopic view
- Systematic studies in rats on the effect of NP parameters on systemic translocation and secondary target organ accumulation
- Toxicology: biological response to NP surface area



Nanoparticle (NP) translocation into circulation







Ventilation-inhalation system of Ir-NP









Intubation ventilation

Nose-only inhalation

Intra-tracheal instillation



Systemic translocation of nanoparticles towards secondary target organs



WKY rat, ¹⁹²Ir NP, 1 hr exposure 15 nm CMD, 10^7 cm⁻³, 0.2 mg/m³

Long-term translocation kinetics same exposure



There is little but persistent translocation of Ir-NP towards secondary target organs

Systemic translocation of nanoparticles towards secondary target organs



WKY rat, 192 Ir NP, 1 hr exposure 15 nm CMD, 10^7 cm-3, 0.2 mg/m³





Systemic translocation of nanoparticles towards secondary target organs



Human dose estimate during continuous exposure applying rat translocation dynamics determined for Ir UFP:

(5 nm assumption)	
Estimated surface area	~10 ⁻¹ mm²
Retained UFP number in brain, heart	~10 ¹⁰ UFP/year
Translocated fraction to brain, heart	0.001 (of lung deposit)
Insoluble UFP fraction	0.1
Deposition fraction	0.3
Daily inhaled volume	10 m³
NC (UFP) (10 ⁵ p/cm ³)	10 ¹¹ p/m ³





Morphological characterisation of NP distribution in the lungs





Inhalation of TiQ₂ nanoparticles in rat lungs





Systemic translocation depends on NP material + particularly its surface





Toxicology: biological response to NP surface area



Surface area of NP is associated with inflammatory response



Influx of neutrophils (PMN) : indicator of inflammation Instillation of ultrafine UF-TiO₂ (20 nm) or fine F-TiO₂ (250 nm) into rat lungs



Oberdörster et al., HEI 2000











- Six months after a single 1-hour inhalation iridium NP were found at elevated number concentrations in 2nd target organs such as liver, spleen, heart, brain, etc.
- While 20 nm Ir and 25 nm carbon and 18 nm gold NP show similar translocated fractions, 22 nm TiO₂ NP seem to be much more translocated towards circulation
- Translocation and uptake in secondary target organs is strongly NP size dependent
- Biological inflammatory response is strongly driven by NP parameters like metals, organics and the NP surface area and its biologically active sites



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