

- Virus

Covid: Air pollution increases risk of hospitalisation, study finds

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Living in areas of high air pollution increases the risk of hospitalisation with Covid-19 a new study has found. Imperial College London researchers also found evidence people living in polluted areas may have an increased risk of catching the disease. Long-term exposure to air pollution increases susceptibility to worse outcomes from Covid, the report found. But researchers found particulate matter - large airborne particles - did not appear to play any important part in transporting Covid-19, as had been suggested by some earlier studies. In addition, inconsistent results were found for studies of long-term exposure to air pollution and the number of Covid cases. Scientists said that as the pandemic is less than two years old further research will be necessary "to strengthen these emerging findings".