

From the Institute of Occupational Medicine

Why is there no acknowledgement at all of air pollution and the dangers it poses with particles PM2.5 (below), and PM10, especially when there was so much effort and energy put into legislation to reduce passive smoking which as you can see is considered to be between 3 times and 4 times less deadly?

Why we all have a role to play!!

	Reduction in PM <sub>2.5</sub>	Elimination of road traffic accidents	Elimination of passive smoking
Expected gain in life expectancy	7-8 months	1-3 months	2-3 months
Estimated equivalent gain in life years 2005 - 2110	>39 million years	>8 million years	> 13 million years

Ref: Institute of Occupational Medicine , Comparing estimated risks for air pollution with risks for other health effects, March 2006

Air quality diagnosis sits comfortably within Environmental Health Departments.....*but*.....to improve the effectiveness of the LAQM process the ownership of air quality problems and solutions needs to be a priority for those departments that can bring about meaningful change i.e. those departments that can offer and more importantly implement solutions.

