

## THE RIGHT PATH



**WELCOME** to this first issue of The Right PATH quarterly newsletter! The Right PATH is the official newsletter of the Professional Association for Transport & Health (PATH). PATH is a platform for cross-disciplinary and multi-sector professionals working at the intersection of transport and health. The aim of PATH is to share information, exchange ideas, and foster collaboration to improve health and well-being within communities by advocating for the integration of health in the urban and transport agendas. The newsletter complements this mission by keeping members connected and up-to-date on important issues taking place globally in the evolving field of transport and health.

Not a PATH member? Click [HERE](#) to learn about the benefits of becoming a member. Enter discount code: **SANTA2016** to receive a 10% discount off a PATH membership (offer ends 31 December 2016).

*Before The Right PATH continues, we would like to take a moment to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas & Happy Hanukkah. May the light and joy of the New Year bring hope and happiness in 2017.*

**BELIEVE**  
in the Magic of Christmas

Happy   
Hanukkah



### PATH Board of Directors

Applications for PATH Board members will be accepted through December 2016

*(You MUST be an active member to be considered)*

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT – HANEEN KHREIS

# EXPOSURE TO TRAFFIC-RELATED AIR POLLUTION INCREASES THE RISK OF DEVELOPING CHILDHOOD ASTHMA

*Researchers from the University of Leeds and ISGlobal publish the largest and most up-to-date review and analysis on risk of childhood asthma due to traffic exposures*



Children and adolescents exposed to high levels of traffic-related air pollution have a higher risk of developing asthma, according to a systematic review and large-scale analysis performed by researchers from the University of Leeds and the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal).

An estimated 334 million people suffer from asthma worldwide, and numerous studies show that the prevalence of childhood asthma has markedly increased since the 1950s. The factors underlying this increase are largely unknown, but changes in environmental exposures including air pollution are thought to be involved.

This study, published in *Environment International*, is the largest and most up-to-date review and analysis of current evidence of exposure to traffic-related air pollution (TRAP) and development of childhood asthma. The authors reviewed more than 4,000 articles published on the topic between 1999 and September 2016, and analysed the data from 41 epidemiological studies from the Netherlands, the USA, Canada, Germany, Norway, Sweden, England, France, Italy, Japan, China, Taiwan, and Korea, that met criteria for inclusion in the systematic review. Khreis and co-authors then combined data for over a million children in a meta-analysis, and showed that TRAP exposures increase the risk of childhood asthma development.



Image source: <https://www.greentechmedia.com/articles/>

Haneen Khreis, researcher at the University of Leeds and lead author of the study, concludes that “according to the analysis we performed, combining data from multiple studies, we can now confirm that there is a positive association between TRAP exposures and development of childhood asthma”.

**ALMOST 70% OF PEOPLE GLOBALLY ARE PROJECTED TO LIVE IN URBAN AREAS BY 2050, EXPOSURE TO TRAFFIC-RELATED AIR POLLUTION IS A MAJOR GLOBAL HEALTH PROBLEM**

In particular, the review looked at exposure to traffic-associated nitrogen dioxide, black carbon, and particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) during childhood, and the subsequent development of asthma. “Our analysis shows that the most robust effects were in association with black carbon exposure, a specific marker of traffic exhaust and a diesel-related pollutant, but more research is needed

to draw definitive conclusions, including exploring the effects of non-exhaust pollutants”. Many cities in Europe are diesel dominated; there is an urgent need to reduce their emissions.

“Air pollution has a great impact on childhood health” underlines Mark Nieuwenhuijsen, senior author of the study and director of the [Urban Planning, Environment and Health Initiative at ISGlobal](#). “Given that almost 70% of people globally are projected to live in urban areas by 2050, exposure to traffic-related air pollution is a major global health problem and we need to act quickly”, he adds.

**Reference:** Haneen Khreis, Charlotte Kelly, James Tate, Roger Parslow, Karen Lucas, Mark Nieuwenhuijsen. Exposure to traffic-related air pollution and risk of development of childhood. A systematic review and meta-analysis, *Environmental International*.

<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0160412016307838?via%3Dihub>.

For more information contact Haneen Khreis at [ts12hrk@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:ts12hrk@leeds.ac.uk)

## REGULATORY REPORTS & POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS



### THE NEW URBAN AGENDA

#### Key Commitments

Original article and additional resources found at: <http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/blog/2016/10/newurbanagenda/>



World leaders have adopted the New Urban Agenda, which sets a global standard for sustainable urban development aimed at providing a new perspective of how to plan, manage and live in cities. The New Urban Agenda is roadmap for building cities that serve as engines of prosperity and centres of cultural and social well-being while protecting the environment. The Agenda also provides guidance for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and provides the underpinning for actions to address climate change. Now it is up to national governments and local authorities to

implement the Agenda, with technical and financial partnerships and assistance from the international community. In the New Urban Agenda, leaders have committed to:

#### **Provide basic services for all citizens**

These services include: access to housing, safe drinking water and sanitation, nutritious food, healthcare and family planning, education, culture and access to communication technologies.

#### **Ensure that all citizens have access to equal opportunities and face no discrimination**

Everyone has the right to benefit from what their cities offer. The New Urban Agenda calls on city authorities to take into account the needs of women, youth and children, people with disabilities, marginalized groups, older persons, indigenous people, among other groups.

#### **Promote measures that support cleaner cities**

Tackling air pollution in cities is good both for people’s health and for the planet. In the Agenda, leaders have committed to increase their use of renewable energy, provide better and greener public

transport, and sustainably manage their natural resources.

### **Strengthen resilience in cities to reduce the risk and the impact of disasters**

Many cities have felt the impact of natural disasters and leaders have now committed to implement mitigation and adaptation measures to minimize these impacts. Some of these measures include: better urban planning, quality infrastructure and improving local responses.

### **Take action to address climate change by reducing their greenhouse gas emissions**

Leaders have committed to involve not just the local government but all actors of society to take climate action taking into account the Paris Agreement on climate change which seeks to limit the increase in global temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius. Sustainable cities that reduce emissions from energy and build resilience can play a lead role.

### **Fully respect the rights of refugees, migrants and internally displaced persons regardless of their migration status**

Leaders have recognized that migration poses challenges but it also brings significant contributions to urban life. Because of this, they have committed to establish measures that help migrants, refugees and IDPs make positive contributions to societies.

### **Improve connectivity and support innovative and green initiatives**

This includes establishing partnerships with businesses and civil society to find sustainable solutions to urban challenges

### **Promote safe, accessible and green public spaces**

Human interaction should be facilitated by urban planning, which is why the Agenda calls for an increase in public spaces such as sidewalks, cycling lanes, gardens, squares and parks. Sustainable urban

design plays a key role in ensuring the liveability and prosperity of a city.

### **How will this be achieved?**

The New Urban Agenda will require new urban rules and regulations, improved urban planning and design, and municipal finance, among other things. To find out more about the implementation of the Agenda visit: <https://habitat3.org/the-new-urban-agenda/>



## U.S. DOT PROPOSES GUIDELINES TO ADDRESS DRIVER DISTRACTION CAUSED BY MOBILE DEVICES IN VEHICLES

Original article and resource found at: [https://www.nhtsa.gov/About-NHTSA/Press-Releases/nhtsa\\_distraction\\_guidelines\\_phase2\\_11232016](https://www.nhtsa.gov/About-NHTSA/Press-Releases/nhtsa_distraction_guidelines_phase2_11232016)



The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has released proposed guidelines intended to help address driver distraction caused by mobile and other electronic devices in vehicles. The announcement covers the [second phase](#) of voluntary guidelines to address driver distraction on U.S. roads. The [first phase](#) focused on devices or systems built into the vehicle at the time of manufacture.

The proposed, voluntary guidelines are designed to encourage portable and aftermarket electronic device developers to design products that, when used while driving, reduce the potential for driver

distraction. The guidelines encourage manufacturers to implement features such as pairing, where a portable device is linked to a vehicle's infotainment system, as well as Driver Mode, which is a simplified user interface. Both pairing and Driver Mode will reduce the potential for unsafe driver distraction by limiting the time a driver's eyes are off the road, while at the same time preserving the full functionality of these devices when they are used at other times. **The agency is seeking public comments on its proposed guidelines. Submit written comments at [Regulations.gov](http://Regulations.gov)**



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION – SERIOUS ROAD TRAFFIC INJURIES REPORT

Original article and resource found at: <http://www.nrso.ntua.gr/european-commission-serious-road-traffic-injuries-report-2016/>

The Road Safety Unit of DG Move of the European Commission has recently released a Report entitled, “[Study on Serious Road Traffic Injuries in the EU](#)”.

According to the European Commission, 135,000 people are seriously injured on European roads every year and while the number of deaths has fallen dramatically over the last decade, serious injuries have declined at a much slower rate. It is therefore recommended in this study that the EU should set a target to reduce the number of people seriously injured in road collisions.

The new study examined real world collision data and investigation outcomes from across Europe in an attempt to boost understanding of the most common collision situations that result in serious

injuries. The data reveal many of the key risk factors and victim profiles which could help member states identify the best measures to reduce such collisions.

## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



### Gavin McCormack

Dr. Gavin McCormack is a Canadian Institutes of Health Research New Investigator. He holds a faculty appointment as an Associate Professor in the Department of Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine (University of Calgary, Canada) and an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Faculty of Environmental Design (University of Calgary, Canada). Since 2014, he has been an Associate Scientific Editor for the journal “Health Promotion and Chronic Disease Prevention in Canada”. Gavin has an MSc in Sports Science (Exercise Physiology specialization) from Edith Cowan University (Western Australia) and PhD in Public Health from the University of Western Australia. His research program is in the area of population and public health and focuses on investigating the relationships between the neighbourhood built and social environments and health including physical activity, active transportation, diet, sedentary behaviour, and weight status among adults and children.



# ite TALKS TRANSPORTATION

“The concept of health and transport has hit an all-time high and people are really engaged and seeing that we need to make a change.”

*Karyn Warsaw, Founder & Executive Director of Transportation-Public Health Link*

A Conversation on the Connection between Public Health and Transportation

Hear more of this podcast: <http://bit.ly/2gdDpQG>

## 2017 CONFERENCES

### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSPORT & HEALTH ICTH 2017 - Barcelona



The International Conference on Transport & Health (ICTH) is designed to bridge the gap between scientific investigation and real-world application. It is the only conference event fully dedicated to transport systems and health impacts. Interactive Hot Topic Workshops and abstract presentations (oral, pecha kucha and poster) are led by cross-disciplinary and multi-sector teams with the specific aim to demonstrate “how” non-traditional and innovative thinking can lead to creative problem solving.

Policy-makers, practitioners and academics from multiple disciplines involved in transport planning and engineering, public health, urban planning, spatial and architectural design, environmental planning, economics and beyond will convene at the Barcelona Institute for Global Health (ISGlobal) Campus Mar located in Barcelona, Spain, **27-29 June 2017**, to share their stories of success and failure; build world-wide collaborative friendships; but most importantly, leave inspired! The theme for ICTH 2017 Barcelona is “Changing Perspectives: Health Impacts of Urban

and Transport Related Exposures.”

The afternoon of **Monday, 26 June 2017**, has been set aside as an unconference including the first General Meeting of the Professional Association for Transport & Health (PATH) and an organizational meeting for a proposed book to be published through [Cambridge Scholars](#). During the week of 24 June to 2 July, tickets will be available FREE of charge for ICTH delegates to ‘Walk with Gaudi’ at the Gaudi Exhibition Center.



Sagrada Familia in Barcelona - Gaudi

For more information or to submit an abstract by the **deadline, Sunday, 22 January 2017**, visit the conference website at:

<http://www.tphlink.com/ictb-2017---barcelona.html>

## OTHER 2017 CONFERENCES

**Transportation Research Board 96<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**, 8-12 January, Washington D.C.  
<http://www.trb.org/AnnualMeeting/AnnualMeeting.aspx>

**Active Living Research Annual Conference**, February 26 - March 1, Clearwater Beach, Florida.  
<http://activelivingresearch.org/annual-conference-2017>

**International Conference on Driver Distraction and Inattention**, March 20-22, Paris, France. <https://ddi2017.sciencesconf.org/>

**International Conference on Ecology and Transportation**, May 14-18, Salt Place Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah.  
[http://www.icoet.net/ICOET\\_2017/index.asp](http://www.icoet.net/ICOET_2017/index.asp)

**International Society of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity**, Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, 7-10 June.  
<https://www.isbnpa.org/index.php?r=annualMeeting/index>

**Institute of Transportation Engineers Annual Meeting and Exhibit**, 30 July – 2 August 2017, Toronto, Ontario, Canada.  
<http://www.ite.org/annualmeeting/>

**XVIII International Conference on Walking and Liveable Cities**, 19–22 September.  
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/walk21calgary/program/call-contributions>

**International Cycling Conference**, 19-21 September, Mannheim.

<https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/international-cycling-conference-startseite>

**29th Annual Scientific Conference of the International Society of Environmental Epidemiology**, 24-28 September, Sydney, Australia. <http://www.isee2017.com/>

## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

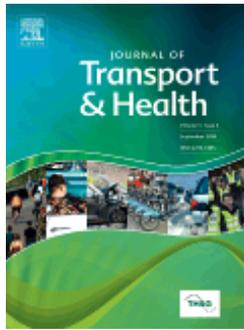


### Awanti Acharya

Awanti Acharya is a second year Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Geography at the University of Connecticut under the supervision of Dr. Carol Atkinson-Palombo and Dr. Norman Garrick. Her research focuses on understanding the relationship between built environment and traffic fatality. Before joining UConn, she completed her Master of Philosophy from Jawaharlal Nehru University, India with a special focus on the trends of urbanization in India. She completed her Master's from Delhi School of Economics, India and her bachelor's from Presidency College, India.



## PUBLISHED PAPERS



### Five Most Download Articles From ScienceDirect *January 2016 through July 2016*

The impact of mobility scooters on their users. Does their usage help or hinder?: A state of the art review [http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140515000201?dgcid=newsletter\\_email\\_stmj-mostdownloaded](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140515000201?dgcid=newsletter_email_stmj-mostdownloaded)

Investigating the rates and impacts of near misses and related incidents among UK cyclists [http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140515002236?dgcid=newsletter\\_email\\_stmj-mostdownloaded](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140515002236?dgcid=newsletter_email_stmj-mostdownloaded)

The role of bicycle sharing systems in normalising the image of cycling: An observational study of London cyclists [http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140513000030?dgcid=newsletter\\_email\\_stmj-mostdownloaded](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140513000030?dgcid=newsletter_email_stmj-mostdownloaded)

Public transport and health outcomes in rural sub-Saharan Africa: Synthesis of professional opinion [http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140516000025?dgcid=newsletter\\_email\\_stmj-mostdownloaded](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140516000025?dgcid=newsletter_email_stmj-mostdownloaded)

Tracking global bicycle ownership patterns [http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140515006787?dgcid=newsletter\\_email\\_stmj-mostdownloaded](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140515006787?dgcid=newsletter_email_stmj-mostdownloaded)

Do you have an idea for a manuscript? Are you looking for an appropriate journal to submit your work? Need a little guidance on how to write up a manuscript? For answers to these questions and more, visit the Elsevier webpage at: <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-transport-and-health>

### OTHER ARTICLES OF INTEREST

Journal of Transport & Health [OPEN ACCESS](#)

The health impacts of traffic-related exposures in urban areas: Understanding real effects, underlying driving forces and co-producing future directions <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214140516301992>

Relating traffic fatalities to GDP in Europe on the long term – 2016 <http://www.nrso.ntua.gr/relating-traffic-fatalities-to-gdp-in-europe-on-the-long-term-2016/>

Scale of Europe's air pollution problem demands more action [http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(16\)32459-X/fulltext](http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(16)32459-X/fulltext)

Development of Crash Modification Factors for Uncontrolled Pedestrian Crossing Treatment <http://www.trb.org/main/blurbs/175381.aspx>

Volpe News: Reducing Traffic Fatalities to Zero [https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USD\\_OTVOLPE/bulletins/1749811](https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USD_OTVOLPE/bulletins/1749811)

The Effect that State and Federal Housing Policies Have on Vehicle Miles of Travel <https://ncst.ucdavis.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/11-10-2016-FINAL-The-Effect-that-State-and-Federal-Housing-Policies-Have-on-Vehicle-Miles-of-Travel.pdf>

## DOCTORAL, FELLOWSHIP & EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



### DOCTORAL PROGRAMMES

#### [TransGlobal Health Network](#)

Ten (10) doctoral degree student programme openings are currently available under the following themes:

Theme I: Addressing Ethical Challenges in Global Health Research

Theme II: Systemic Approaches Towards Sustainable Development Goals

Theme III: Urbanisation, Migration, and Environmental Impacts on Health in a Globalised World

#### [Health Impact Assessment for Healthy Living](#)

Doctoral degree student programme opening; part of the TransGlobal Health Network. Contact Mark Nieuwenhuijsen for more information at [mark.nieuwenhuijsen@isglobal.org](mailto:mark.nieuwenhuijsen@isglobal.org)

#### [People, Prosperity and the Planet \(P3\) Student Design Competition](#)

EPA's 14th Annual P3 Awards: A National Student Design Competition for Sustainability Focusing on People, Prosperity and the Planet Request for Applications is now open until **February 3, 2017**.

### PROFESSIONAL FELLOWSHIPS

#### [Gulf Research Program](#)

The Gulf Research Program is part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.

Applications are now being accepted for early-career research fellowships and science policy fellowships. Application deadline for both fellowship opportunities is **February 22, 2017**.

#### [Postdoctoral Research Position in Analytical Methods for Sustainable Urban Mobility](#)

The Department of Transport Engineering and Logistics at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, host of the BRT Centre of Excellence and key member of the Centre for Sustainable Urban Development, is currently looking for a post doctorate or experienced researcher to join the research group starting around **March 2017**.

#### [Smart Fellowships](#)

SMART is a major new research enterprise established by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in partnership with the National Research Foundation of Singapore. SMART serves as an intellectual hub for international research collaborations.

### HELP WANTED

#### [Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization](#)

- Survey Distributor/Data Entry Clerk
- Travel Demand Modeler
- Editor
- Transportation Planner/Engineer
- Transportation Planner/Unified Planning Work Program Manager
- Manager for the Transportation Systems Analysis Group
- Travel Demand Modeler/Operations Research Scientist

[CDM Smith](#) Transportation Planner, Houston, Texas

## [Planetizen Job Board](#)

### [SMART Jobs](#)

SMART is a major new research enterprise established by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in partnership with the National Research Foundation of Singapore. SMART serves as an intellectual hub for international research collaborations.

### [Scientific Institute of Public Health](#)

Senior Scientific Staff Member - Epidemiology of Health & Environment

### [Transportation for America](#)

Transportation for America, a program of Smart Growth America is currently seeking applicants for the following positions:

- Economic Analyst
- Director
- Policy Director
- Communications Intern (paid)

## ASK AN EXPERT



Do you have a transport and health related question in which you really need an answer or maybe you are just curious? Let us know and we will find the appropriate person to answer your question and print the answer in the next issue of The Right PATH. In the meantime, take a look at the [Hot Topics](#) available on the TPH Link website. Several of the topics include an expert on the topic who is available if you have specific questions. For example, are you looking for a project planning tool or need help assessing health impacts? Check out the TPH Link webpage on [Public Health Performance Metrics](#) and [Health Impact Assessment](#).

THANK YOU!!



Thank you for taking the time to read through this first issue of The Right PATH quarterly newsletter. We hope you found the information interesting and useful. If you have something you would like to share with PATH members please send it to Haneen Khreis [khreishaneen@gmail.com](mailto:khreishaneen@gmail.com) or Karyn Warsow [kwarsow@tphlink.com](mailto:kwarsow@tphlink.com) by the newsletter deadline of **1 March 2017**.

*“The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make some difference that you have lived and lived well.”*

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

