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Workflow for Comparison of Chemical and Biological Metrics of Filter Collected PM2.5

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Abstract

There is limited understanding of adverse health effect associations with chemical constituents of fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) as well as the underlying mechanisms. We outlined a workflow to assess metrics, beyond concentration, using household and personal $PM_{2.5}$ filter samples collected in India as a proof of concept for future large-scale studies. Oxidative potential, chemical composition (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and elements), and bioactivity (developmental exposures in zebrafish) were determined. Significant differences were observed in all metrics between personal and household $PM_{2,5}$ samples. This work established methods to characterize multiple metrics of $PM_{2.5}$ to ultimately support the identification of more health-relevant metrics than concentration.

Graphical abstract

Declaration of interests

The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests:

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Courtney Roper: Writing – Original Draft, Visualization, Conceptualization **Allison Perez:** Investigation, Methodology **Damien Barrett:** Writing – Reviewing and Editing, Data Curation, Formal Analysis **Perry Hystad:** Writing – Reviewing and Editing, Conceptualization **Staci Simonich:** Writing – Reviewing and Editing, Supervision **Robyn Tanguay:** Writing – Reviewing and Editing, Supervision, Funding acquisition

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Appendix A (Supplementary Information)

Appendix B (Raw Zebrafish Data)

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Keywords

Indoor PM_{2.5}; Household air pollution; zebrafish; oxidative potential; PM_{2.5} composition; PAH diagnostic ratios

1. INTRODUCTION

Annually, 4.3 million premature deaths occur from illnesses attributed to household air pollution (HAP) .¹ Sources vary regionally but most HAP across the globe comes from home heating and cooking with solid fuel sources, $2,3$ an exposure that disproportionately affects women and children.⁴ Fine particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$) is a component of HAP with 48 wellestablished health effects, $5-7$ although far less is understood about the chemical constituents of PM2.5 that result from HAP.

Identifying the chemical composition and toxicological effects of PM2.5 from HAPwill lead to a more robust characterization of these exposures with the potential for $PM_{2.5}$ hazard prediction. Instead of using $PM_{2.5}$ mass as an indicator of health outcomes, composition and oxidative potential have been proposed as more health relevant metrics.^{8,9} Stronger associations have been observed between human health impacts and oxidative potential¹⁰ or composition¹¹ compared to associations with outdoor PM_{2.5} concentrations. There is currently limited data available for composition and oxidative potential in comparison to the more extensive reports for PM_{2.5} concentration, especially when considering HAP and personal PM2.5 exposures. With even less data generated thus far measuring both metrics in the same $PM_{2.5}$ sample.¹²

animal models are often the opposite, offering systems level complexity, but low throughput. Recently, the developmental zebrafish (Danio rerio) was established as an in vivo platform for rapid testing of $PM_{2.5}$.^{13,14} This highly sensitive vertebrate model offers a systems level approach complemented by many well-defined developmental toxicity endpoints^{15,16} and an extensive molecular toolkit.¹⁷ Integrating this high-throughput screening model will provide a rapid sensor for assessing the bioactivity of HAP and personal $PM_{2.5}$.

Quantifying the chemical composition, oxidative potential, and bioactivity in zebrafish for the same $PM_{2.5}$ sample will lead to a better understanding of the connection between exposure sources, chemical composition, and health impacts. Additionally, these metrics have not been assessed for paired kitchen and personal samples, in the same households. Identifying differences in $PM_{2.5}$ metrics based on household vs personal samples may elucidate possible limitations of current HAP $PM_{2,5}$ exposure assessments.

We sought to outline a workflow to collect oxidative potential, chemical composition, and bioactivity data for the same $PM_{2.5}$ sample. As a proof of concept, $PM_{2.5}$ collected with kitchen and personal monitors from six households in India, which used the same primary fuel source for cooking, underwent the proposed workflow. Notably, this workflow enables multiple analysis methods including oxidative potential assessment utilizing a 96-well plate format. Our findings demonstrate the feasibility of a workflow for chemical characterization and biological response assessment of a single $PM_{2.5}$ sample and the ability to identify differences in these metrics based on the type of monitor used for collection.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

2.1 Chemicals

Information for PAHs and deuterated or isotopically labelled standards, including abbreviations, is provided in the Supporting Information (Table A1). Solvents including: acetonitrile (ACN), acetone (Ace), ethyl acetate (EA), dichloromethane (DCM), hexane, and methanol (MetOH); all optima grade were purchased from Thermo Fisher Scientific (Santa Clara, CA). Toluene, dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), N-methyl-N-(tert-butyldimethylsilyl) trifluoroacetamide (MTBSTFA), dithiobis-2-nitrobenzoic acid (DTNB), dithiothreitol (DTT), and 1,4-naphtoquinone were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (Milwaukee, WI).

2.2 PM2.5 Samples

Kitchen and personal PM_{2.5} samples were collected as part of the previously described Prospective Urban and Rural Epidemiological (PURE)-AIR pilot study between July 13th and September 2nd, 2015 in Kheri, India.18 Ultrasonic personal aerosol samplers (UPAS) were used with Pallflex fiberfilm filters (37 mm) to collect time-integrated $PM_{2.5}$ over a 48 hour period for both kitchen and personal monitors. Kitchen monitors were placed in the kitchen area of the household approximately 1 m from the primary cook stove and 1 m above the floor. Personal monitors were worn over the shoulder or on the upper arm with custom built harnesses. After the 48-hour monitoring period participants completed a survey

to document household characteristics, cooking and heating practices and personal behaviours. Following collection, pre-weighed filters were post-weighed to determine PM_{2.5} mass loadings using an automated filter weighing system.¹⁸ Households (n=6) from the PURE-AIR pilot study were selected that had both kitchen $PM_{2.5}$ monitor filters and $PM_{2.5}$ personal filters worn by female participants living in the selected households. All households reported liquified petroleum gas (LPG) as their primary fuel source.

2.3 Filter Extraction

Extraction of $PM_{2.5}$ from filters occurred via sonication in methanol for 60 min in a waterbath sonicator (40 Hz, Bransonic). Following sonication, filters were rinsed with methanol to remove any residual particles, the extract was pooled with all other filter extracts from the corresponding group, and concentrated under a steady stream of N_2 to dryness. Dried $PM₂$ ₅ samples were re-suspended in DMSO through 30 min sonication (40) Hz, Bransonic) and then centrifuged (5 min, 13 g). The supernatant was collected as the DMSO soluble fraction of the $PM_{2.5}$ samples.¹³ Aliquots of this fraction were used for chemical and toxicological analyses (Fig 1). Blank filters (filters without $PM₂$, collected) underwent the same procedures to serve as a method controls throughout the subsequent analyses.

2.4 Oxidative Potential

Aliquots of the $PM_{2.5}$ or blank filter extracts were taken from the individual filter samples (n=12) and the pooled kitchen or personal groups and used to measure oxidative potential with the dithiothreitol (DTT) assay. The assay was performed following standard procedures¹⁹ but with volume modifications to allow for measurement in 96-well plates containing 100 μL of 0.05 M potassium phosphate monobasic sodium hydroxide, 5 μL of 0.5 mM DTT, 10 μL of sample, and 10 μL of 1 mM dithiobis-2-nitrobenzoic acid (DTNB). Controls included: a blank (phosphate buffer solution), a blank filter (blank filter undergoing extraction procedures performed on the $PM_{2.5}$ filters), and a positive control (1,4naphtoquinone). The rate of DTT loss was determined via quantification of 2-nitro-5 thiobenzoic acid (TNB) by fluorescence readings with comparison to a linear regression of known DTT standards.20 TNB is formed from the reaction of DTNB with the remaining DTT, not reacted with the sample, and allows for quantification of DTT consumption during the reaction.

2.5 Bioactivity Assessment

The well-established, semi-automated high-throughput developmental toxicity screening procedures at the Sinnhuber Aquatic Research Laboratory (SARL)^{15,21,22} were utilized for all PM2.5 exposures. Following zebrafish embryo static exposure starting at 6 hours post fertilization (hpf) to the DMSO soluble fraction of $PM_{2.5}$, 96-well plates were sealed with parafilm to prevent evaporation, wrapped in aluminium foil to prevent photodegradation, and placed on an orbital shaker at 235 rpm overnight; plates were stored at 28 °C throughout the experiment.15 The personal monitor sample was set to a final concentration of 200 μg/mL in 1% DMSO, a concentration previously established through use of a standard reference material to induce developmental toxicity.¹³ The same volume of DMSO was used to resuspend the pooled kitchen monitor sample, resulting in a final concentration of 409 μg/mL.

This maintained the variability between samples based on the volume of air collected from all monitors. Developmental toxicity was assessed at 24 and 120 hpf as morphological changes and mortality in all treatments (DMSO soluble fraction from extraction of kitchen monitor or personal monitor PM_{2.5} filters) and controls (1% DMSO vehicle control; blank filter control, n=32 embryos/group). The soluble fraction was tested based on previous studies identifying this portion to be bioactive in the model.13 All data was processed using custom designed software called the Zebrafish Acquisition and Analysis Program (ZAAP) with statistical significance computed as previously reported.¹⁵

2.6 Chemical Analysis

2.6.1 Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon (PAH) Analysis.—Aliquots of the DMSO soluble fraction of $PM_{2.5}$ from pooled filters of kitchen or personal monitors and blank filter extracts were solvent exchanged to hexane via a TurboVap evaporation system (N_2 gas, 30) °C) followed by solid phase extraction (SPE) clean-up (Appendix A). Samples were then solvent exchanged to EA and concentrated to 300 μ L under a stream of N₂. Samples were spiked with isotopically labelled internal standards. Hydroxy-PAH analysis was performed with an aliquot of the concentrated sample that was derivatized following addition of internal standards (Appendix A). Organic compounds, specifically parent/methyl PAHs $(n=19)$, nitro- $(n=22)$, $oxy-(n=23)$, hydroxy- $(n=36)$, and high molecular weight (MW 278, HMW, n=14) PAHs, were quantitatively measured using Agilent 6890 gas chromatography (GC) coupled with an Agilent 5973N mass spectrometer (MS). Selected ion monitoring (SIM) was utilized with spectral data analysis performed with ChemStation software (V. E.02.02.1431, Agilent Technologies). Commercially available standards were used for all measured compounds and all samples and controls were run in triplicate with laboratory blanks and blank filters throughout.

2.6.2 Elemental Analysis.—Aliquots of the DMSO soluble fraction of PM_{2.5} from pooled kitchen and personal sampling and blank filter extracts were added to ultrapure water, resulting in a 0.1 % DMSO concentration. Elements (n=14), were quantitatively measured using an Agilent 5110 inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES) system in axial view mode at the Central Analytical Laboratory at Oregon State University. Commercially available standards were utilized for all measured compounds and all samples and controls were run in triplicate.

2.7 Statistical Analysis

Data was blank corrected by laboratory blank and blank filter extracts where noted. All figures were generated with SigmaPlot 14.0 (San Jose, CA). For oxidative potential and chemical characterization data, histograms and statistical significance calculations (one- or two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) tests and pairwise multiple comparison procedures (Hom-Sidak method) with significance set at p<0.05) were completed in SigmaPlot 14.0. For developmental toxicity screening in zebrafish, statistical significance was computed as previously reported.¹⁵

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 PM2.5

PM2.5 concentrations for the six households were calculated for both the kitchen and personal monitors (Figure 2). Variability was observed between the households for the kitchen (189.7 \pm 127.5 µg/m³) and personal monitors (100.2 \pm 41.1 µg/m³). In 75% of the households that had kitchen monitors, PM_{2.5} concentrations below the mean (households A, B, D, and F), the calculated $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations from the personal monitors were higher than those from the kitchen monitors. This suggested that while the overall mean concentrations were elevated in the kitchen monitors, the trend was heavily influenced by two households (C and E). Based on questionnaire data collected in all households, these two households did not report using outdoor cooking sources, a factor that may have contributed to the elevated concentrations. The kitchen monitors had elevated PM_{2.5} concentrations over 3 times higher than the corresponding personal monitors, which aligns with previous research²³ but also contradicts several studies that found increased concentrations with personal monitoring.^{24–26} Potential reasons for these findings include: geographic community differences between previous studies (housing characteristics, social practices), participant activities, number of residents in the household, cooking practices, and skewed averages due to high concentrations of kitchen monitors in two of the households. The kitchen/personal differential in $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations here occurred between households from the same geographic community using the same fuel source. There were large differences between kitchen and personal monitors (average difference of 100.8 \pm 122.8 μg/m³). Differences in personal activities and factors within each home are likely driving these differences, which will be explored in future research using all measurements $(\sim 4,000)$ collected in the PURE study and detailed survey data on activities during monitoring. Notably, the measured concentrations from all household and personal monitors far exceed the available outdoor concentration guidelines from the World Health Organization for annual and 24-hour mean concentrations (10 and 25 μ g/m³, respectively).²⁷ The kitchen monitors in this study had similar concentrations to previous indoor air studies in India (averages of 135–173 μ g/m³)²⁸ and were elevated compared to previous studies of indoor $PM_{2.5}$ throughout Europe^{29–31} and the United States.^{24,32,33} We found personal $PM_{2.5}$ exposures to be comparable to those measured in a previous study in India with female participants in households using LPG as their primary fuel source. Similarity between studies from different regions of India after a 13-year sampling gap, suggest that personal PM2.5 exposures of female LPG users across India have changed little. Further research into PM_{2.5} exposures is critical to better understand concentration differences due to geographic, sociocultural, and temporal variation.

3.2 Oxidative Potential

Oxidative potential was assessed for all samples from individual households and from the pooled samples (Figure 3) using a 96-well plate to reduce time, costs, and solvent use. Pooled samples were comprised of all filter extracts for a monitor type (i.e., personal extracts from all six households were combined and referred to as the pooled personal sample). In the oxidative potential assay, the amount of DTT consumed would be

proportional to the amount of redox-active species and thus the ability of the $PM_{2.5}$ sample to induce oxidative stress.

Significant differences were observed between monitor types in all of the individual households sampled, as well as between households when assessing the same monitor type (Table A2). The DTT consumption rates of the pooled samples for both monitor types were significantly different from all of the individual household samples. However, these findings were not additive, suggesting that specific components in each sample were responsible for the observed effects and that chemical interactions between the combined samples prevented additive DTT consumption. Notably, the trends observed for $PM_{2.5}$ concentration (Figure 1) differed from those of oxidative potential (Figure 2), with increased oxidative potential in the personal samples which overall had lower $PM_{2.5}$ concentration.

We saw elevated oxidative potential compared to a previous study of water soluble fraction personal PM $_2$.5. A potential reason for more oxidative potential in our study is that our samples contained many hydrophobic compounds with significant oxidative potential.³⁴ Also, the household fuel sources, and thus the $PM_{2.5}$ chemical composition, differed between the previous study (using solid fuels) and ours (using LPG). The DTT consumption rates observed here were comparable to work measuring the DTT activity of cooking organic aerosols,³⁵ further supporting the conclusion that the sources of $PM_{2.5}$ play a role in oxidative potential.

3.3 Bioactivity Assessment

Pooled samples from the six households were used to identify differences in bioactivity between monitor types. Samples were pooled to ensure adequate mass for both bioactivity assessments and subsequent chemical analyses. Developmental exposure to the DMSO soluble extracts of each $PM_{2.5}$ monitor sample was associated with significant mortality (Table 1). By the end of the exposure (120 hpf) mortality was over 90 % for extracts of both monitor types. These responses were significantly different from the blank filter and DMSO vehicle controls. Temporal differences were observed between the monitor samples, with significant 24 hpf mortality associated with the personal samples and 120 hpf mortality associated with the kitchen monitor monitor concentrations being nearly double to reflect the observed concentrations in the households. This was achieved by re-suspending the extracted $PM_{2.5}$ in the same volume of DMSO for each group for the zebrafish exposures. The DMSO re-suspension volume used for the personal monitor samples was intended to equal previous concentration-response tests in zebrafish using a particulate matter standard reference material $(200 \mu g/mL)$.¹³ This concentration impacted mortality, morphological, and behavioral endpoints,^{13,36} however, with exposure to the current PM_{2.5} samples, insufficient animals survived to evaluate other endpoints. The striking differential in timing of mortality onset between kitchen and personal samples alone would suggest that the chemical constituency can serve as a driver of $PM_{2.5}$ bioactivity.

3.4 Chemical Analysis

Differences between monitor types in oxidative potential and bioactivity of the $PM_{2,5}$ samples, independent of concentration, prompted investigation into the chemical

constituents to identify components that were driving the observed effects. Total summed classes of PAHs by μ g PM_{2.5} (Fig 4a) indicated significant monitor-associated differences in oxy-PAHs and individual parent PAHs (Table A3). This agrees with previous findings of higher PAH concentrations on personal versus kitchen indoor monitors in Poland.³⁷ However, a similar study in China found kitchen monitors collected more PAHs than personal monitors.⁹ Variability in these studies is likely due to a range of factors in the participants: home fuel sources, daily activities, kitchen monitor placement, regional outdoor factors, season of sampling, and methods of filter extraction. Higher prevalence of oxy-PAHs in the personal monitor $PM₂$ samples coincided with the greater oxidative potential and bioactivity of the personal samples. Oxygenated organic compounds were previously correlated with the oxidative potential of particulate matter samples³⁴ and exposure to individual oxy-PAHs has been shown to induce developmental toxicity in zebrafish.²¹

Elemental concentrations in $PM_{2.5}$ (Fig 4b) showed significant differences between monitor types for all quantifiable elements. Normalized concentrations were over double for Ca, K, P, and Pb in the personal monitor samples compared to the kitchen monitor samples. These elements have previously been associated with increased DTT consumption.38,39 Elevated elemental concentrations from personal monitors compared to indoor kitchen monitors was previously reported for households in urban areas across the United States.40 The normalized concentrations of Fe and Mg were elevated in the kitchen monitors compared to the personal monitor samples which had concentrations below the limit of detection. Sources of indoor Fe have previously been associated with re-suspension of crustal elements in households,⁴¹ a factor that would potentially be elevated with the kitchen monitor compared to the personal monitors as the kitchen monitors were placed in an area of high activity for all members of the household, not just the individual wearing the personal monitor.

When assessing the composition of pooled kitchen versus personal monitor $PM_{2.5}$ samples, the class profiles were similar, but more PAH compounds were detected in each class from the kitchen monitors (Fig 5a). Fifty compounds were common to the kitchen and personal PM_{2.5} samples, 16 PAHs were unique to the kitchen monitor samples and 3 PAHs and one metal were unique to the personal monitor samples (Fig 5b). While more compounds were detected in the kitchen monitor $PM_{2.5}$ this did not translate to increased chemical contribution per μg of PM_{2.5} (Fig 4). This is likely due to the contributions of individual oxy-PAHs (1,4-BQ, CdefPhen, 2-M-9,10-AntQ, AceQ, and BcdPyrn) that were at least twofold in the personal samples versus the kitchen (Table A3).

The PAHs unique to the kitchen monitors included several HMW PAHs. The lowtemperature combustion sources and carcinogenicity of HMW PAHs are generally understood, though air concentration data for HMW PAHs is less abundant than for lower MW PAHs.42–44 Nickel (Ni) was unique to the personal sample pool and has been shown to consume DTT³⁹ which may explain the higher oxidative potential of the personal samples. We note that Acenaphthene and 10-Hydroxybenzo(a)pyrene were unique to the personal monitor sample pool. They were previously inactive when tested alone, $2^{1,45}$ but here were indirectly associated with mortality. The other PAH unique to the personal $PM_{2.5}$ sample, 9-Hydroxyphenanthrene,45 was previously described as bioactive, inducing mortality at comparatively low concentrations to other PAHs. Possible inconsistencies between previous

studies and the present, and the larger number of total and unique compounds in the kitchen monitor sample, suggests the need for deeper investigation into the effects of mixtures in these assays.

Diagnostic ratios of PAHs were calculated to identify differences in the sources of PM_{2.5} for each sample (Table 2). This commonly used technique allows for analysis of the sources present from a mixture (i.e. $PM_{2,5}$) by identifying ratios between PAHs that have similar environmental fate processes.46 Based on the ratios from the kitchen and personal monitor samples, it is clear that the primary sources were from combustion of fuel sources, likely natural gas or coal. Participants in these homes reported using LPG as their primary fuel source however secondary fuel sources such as coal may have also been used but not reported. Differences in the sources were not observed between the two monitoring types analysed based on the PAH diagnostic ratio cut-offs. Therefore, it is unlikely that kitchen versus personal monitor differences in oxidative potential, bioactivity, and chemical constituents was due to exposure differences in these specific sources. The observed differences in the metrics may be due to other sources or exposures not captured by the PAH diagnostic ratios.

3.5 Associations to PM2.5 and Chemical Constituents

Significant associations between $PM_{2.5}$ and oxidative potential (Pearson correlations) or zebrafish mortality (odds ratios) are reported in Table A4. $PM_{2.5}$ mass did not have a significant association to either endpoint, but 9-Flon and 2-M-9,10-AntQwere significantly associated with the endpoints. Both of these compounds are oxy-PAHs, a class of compounds that have previously been associated with increased concentration in homes,⁹ toxicity⁵³ and zebrafish developmental toxicity⁵⁴ compared to their parent PAHs. Oxy-PAHs were significantly elevated in the personal monitor samples consistent with the elevated oxidative potential and zebrafish mortality. Our data from these specific samples suggest that oxy-PAH concentration may be more predictive of oxidative potential and toxicity than PM_{2.5} mass or other chemical components. Importantly, this work highlights the potential association between oxidative potential and biological responses, a recent study observed positive correlations between these two factors⁵⁵ but further investigation is needed.

4. CONCLUSIONS

We demonstrate a comprehensive workflow to examine the oxidative potential, bioactivity and chemical composition of PM2.5. This workflow was applied to kitchen and personal $PM_{2.5}$ to characterize exposures occurring in households with the same fuel source, LPG. In this proof of concept study, we demonstrated that there were significant differences in the oxidative potential, bioactivity, and chemical constituents compared to $PM_{2.5}$ mass, as well as between households and between personal and household exposures. Personal monitor samples, while lower in $PM_{2.5}$ concentration, were more bioactive, possibly due to a larger mass of oxy-PAH or even a single dominant oxy-PAH species present in the pooled personal sample. Our work suggests the importance of chemical composition in understanding and eventually predicting $PM_{2.5}$ exposure hazard. Further research is needed to replicate this method in a larger sample of indoor and personal $PM_{2.5}$ samples.

Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

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Figure 1:

Experimental Design. Schematic of the preparation of $PM_{2.5}$ following collection from kitchen or personal monitors from households in Kheri, India. PM_{2.5} was used for chemical and biological response data.

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Figure 2:

PM_{2.5} Concentrations from Households with Kitchen and Personal Monitors. Concentrations (μ g/m³) are reported for each individual filter collected from either a kitchen or personal monitor worn by a female participant in six households (A-F). Dashed lines indicate the mean concentration for the particular monitor type across all sampled households.

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Figure 3:

Oxidative potential for $PM_{2.5}$ from kitchen and personal monitors with individual household and pooled samples. Data are reported as mean ± standard deviation of DTT consumption (nmol) per minute per μg $PM_{2.5}$. All analyses were run in triplicate and statistical significance of a p-value 0.05 was determined by two-way ANOVA with * denoting significant differences between monitor types from individual households (A-F) and a,b denoting significance between pooled and individual samples for kitchen or personal monitors, respectively.

Figure 4:

PAH and element concentrations in PM_{2.5} from kitchen or 309 personal monitors. Following pooling of household samples by monitor type (each group comprised of 6 filter extracts), aliquots of the PM_{2.5} kitchen and personal samples were analyzed for PAHs (n=114, a) via GC-MS and elements (n=14, b) via ICP-OES. Data is reported as concentration \pm standard error mean (SEM). Data was blank corrected (laboratory and filter blank) and normalized by μg of $PM_{2.5}$ with all samples run in triplicate. Statistical significance between monitor types was determined by one-way ANOVA, with p 0.05 designated as * and p 0.001 as **.

Figure 5:

Detected constituents in kitchen and personal PM2.5 samples. Following pooling of household samples by monitor type (each group comprised of 6 filter extracts), aliquots of the $PM_{2.5}$ kitchen and personal samples were analyzed for PAHs (n=114) and elements (n=14). A) Total number of detected compounds are reported for classes of PAHs and elements. B) Venn diagram of overlap of detected compounds between the monitor types.

Table 1

Percent Incidence of Mortality following Developmental Exposure to PM_{2.5}

* indicates statistical significance (above threshold – Fisher's Exact test) from vehicle and blank 279 filter controls (n=32/group)

Table 2:

PAH Diagnostic Ratios

