

# ***Analysis of PM<sub>2.5</sub> Concentration in Mashhad City, Iran in 2013***

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## **Abstract**

**Background and Aims:** particulate air pollution is one of the main sources of air pollution in urban areas that is generated usually from various sources such as vehicle exhaust, industrial combustion processes or secondary conversion of gaseous pollutants. Particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter, penetrate deep into the lungs and are caused respiratory problems. 24-hour standard of PM<sub>2.5</sub> is 35 micrograms per cubic meters. The aim of this study was analysis of PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration in Mashhad city, Iran in 2013.

**Materials and Methods:** this study was cross-sectional and within a year (from April to March 2013) was conducted. Results were analyzed using one-way ANOVA, and then compared with the Environment Protection Organization's standard rates.

**Results:** the results revealed that the maximum concentration of PM<sub>2.5</sub> was, 42.34 μ/m<sup>3</sup> at Daneshgah station. The results revealed that 24-hour maximum concentration of PM<sub>2.5</sub> was 46.88 in the autumn.

**Conclusion:** The results showed that September and winter seasons had the highest prevalence rate that in some cases, PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentration is more than the standard rate. The Daneshgah station has the highest density of PM<sub>2.5</sub> to be allocated.

**Keywords:** PM<sub>2.5</sub>, air pollutant, the primary standard, Mashhad.