What is HHEAR?

The Human Health Exposure Analysis Resource (HHEAR) is a centralized network of exposure analysis services and expertise available to eligible researchers who want to add or expand exposure analysis to their studies of human health. There is no cost to the investigator.

HHEAR was established to:

✓ Advance understanding of the impact of environmental exposures on human health throughout the life course.
✓ Promote characterization of the totality of human environmental exposures called the exposome.

HHEAR is a partnership spanning the National Institutes of Health (NIH), funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences; the National Cancer Institute; the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute; and the NIH Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes Program.

What HHEAR Offers

HHEAR provides researchers access to high-quality exposure-assessment services, including:

✓ Expert consultation on exposure analysis, study design and data analysis for development of applications, provided by the HHEAR Exposure Assessment Network (Lab Hubs) and Data Repository, Analysis, and Science Center (Data Center);
✓ State-of-the-art laboratory analysis: targeted (hypothesis driven) and untargeted (discovery driven) analysis of biological and environmental samples for approved projects;
✓ Statistical analysis, data integration, and interpretation, upon request, for approved projects;
✓ A repository of de-identified epidemiologic and biomarker data for approved projects to promote secondary analysis of pooled environmental health data. Researchers may search and browse HHEAR studies and harmonized data, as well as compile and download customized data.

Who Should Apply?

The HHEAR program prioritizes applications that extend the environmental exposure analyses of a parent grant and support the harmonization of data generated across studies in the HHEAR public data repository. You may be eligible to apply for HHEAR services if you have human biological and/or environmental samples and related health outcome data for an ongoing or completed epidemiological or clinical study that is/was funded by one of the HHEAR funding agency programs. You must also agree to comply with HHEAR policies as indicated in the HHEAR Policies for Access to Services.

Before you apply...

If you are interested in adding exposure analyses to your study, contact us at HHEARHelp@westat.com before you apply. The Coordinating Center will answer questions on eligibility and set up calls with Lab Hub and Data Center scientists, who will provide consultation services on the feasibility of your study design, exposure analyses, biological and environmental samples and data analysis plan.

To learn more about HHEAR, visit HHEARProgram.org or e-mail the HHEAR Coordinating Center at HHEAR_Help@westat.com. To learn more about the HHEAR data repository and how to register for access to HHEAR data, visit HHEARDataCenter.mssm.edu.