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Review

Knowledge Gaps and Recommendations for Future Research of Indoor Particulate Matter in Poland

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Abstract

Research concerning the ambient particulate matter (PM) in the indoor environment has attracted much interest lately. Most often, studies concern some aspect of PM mass concentrations for the PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ fractions and less often the chemical composition of the indoor PM. In the framework of this study, an overview of the existing data in the literature concerning PM in the indoor environment of non-residential buildings has been compiled. An in-depth literature review indicates a lack of comprehensive research data regarding the state and quality of atmospheric air in non-residential buildings. It also highlights an emerging need for more knowledge on the indoor/outdoor air pollution relationships in such facilities. Although several studies underline the topics connected to the concentrations and chemical properties of PM in public utility environments, like offices, kindergartens, schools, churches, libraries, or in occupational environments, only a limited number of those are concerned with its presence inside sports facilities. The concentration of PM in the indoor air of closed sports venues is an important parameter for the users of these facilities due to the potentially harmful effects associated with PM inhalation. This negative influence includes the loss of athletic performance and health reflected by, among other factors, the loss of lung capacity and decreased lung function.

Keywords: PM_{10}; $PM_{2.5}$; indoor air quality; indoor/outdoor; sport facilities

Introduction

Ambient particulate matter (PM) is a key air pollutant due to both the existence of epidemiological evidence which links exposure to PM with various health effects and the fact that so far, in many urbanized areas of the world, the concentrations of PM still cannot be sufficiently reduced despite the existence of air quality standards and many public policies, programmes, and guidelines. Much epidemiological data show that short-term as well as long-term exposure to high concentrations of PM increases the risk of cardiovascular, respiratory, and nervous system diseases. Generally, each 10 μg/m^3 increase in the daily concentrations

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of PM_{10} (PM_x – particles with aerodynamic diameter ≤x μm) may be associated with an increased risk of certain health effects [1]. As research has not identified the PM thresholds below which adverse effects do not occur it is difficult to determine what levels of PM pollution are in fact dangerous for humans [2-3]. However, certain concentrations exceeding the daily limits established individually in each country (or group of countries) should be considered as high.

In general, the negative influence of PM on human health can be observed by the occurrence of the following effects: aggravation of asthma, increased coughing, breathing problems, chronic bronchitis, lung function decline, and premature death. When particles are inhaled or swallowed they may cause a decrease in lung function, coughing, shortness of breath, asthma attacks, chronic lung disease, cardiovascular disease, or even the development of cancer (if particles contain carcinogenic substances) [4-6]. It should, however, be remembered that these symptoms do not occur under the sole influence of PM. Usually, PM affects the human body along with other factors, the effects of which may deepen or aggravate the effects of PM. Epidemiological studies demonstrate the relationships between an increase in PM concentrations in the atmosphere and increased frequency of daily emergency room visits due to asthma and lower respiratory symptoms. The most frequent symptoms were observed in patients with chronic heart disease, lung disease, and pneumonia, which suggests that the occurrence of these disorders could be a co-founding risk factor under high PM concentrations [7]. The relationships between suspended particles and health effects, including mortality, are determined at ever lower concentration levels for PM [8-10]. Although it is not clear whether the PM size or the number concentration [11], chemical [12] or biological composition, or physical properties (mass loading, number of particles, total area, or electrostatic properties) [2] is the more decisive factor [13], the negative health effects of PM always appear in the exposed population. The strongest relationships between air pollution and health outcomes in the population are observed in the case of PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ [2]. Health effects caused by fine particles with aerodynamic diameters between 0.1 and 2.5 μm and ultrafine ones with diameters between 0.01 and 0.1 μm are related to their number concentrations more so than to the PM mass [14].

Research on the presence of PM in the atmosphere is conducted by various institutions and scientific research units all around the world. In Poland, the last decade has resulted in the creation of several dozen important scientific works concerning PM characteristics. On the basis of these works, it is possible to assess not only the degree of air pollution by PM in various regions of Poland, but also:

- The characterization of PM fractions in various areas together with a statistical assessment of PM mass distribution and number distribution in relation to PM size [15-17].
- The chemical composition of different PM fractions [18], together with the assessment of the presence of toxic and carcinogenic compounds in selected PM fractions [18-21].
- The origin of PM in different regions and in different seasons, taking into account the impact of specific or typical emission sources, thermodynamic conditions of the atmosphere, or other parameters such as the impact of the long-distance transport of air pollutants [22-31].
- The impact of PM and its components on human health [32-39].

Due to the fact that people spend a lot of time inside buildings such as flats, offices, schools, shopping centres, etc., more and more attention is currently being paid to PM characteristics in the indoor environment and the different factors modulating its concentration and composition in various types of rooms. In general, the most ground-breaking works regarding PM in living quarters were conducted in the 1990s [40-46]. And although to this day research on air quality inside building interiors, apartments, houses, etc., are conducted all over the world, some of the most important facts about PM in the indoor environment have already been established, and newly conducted studies are rather a complement to the existing base of knowledge about PM than a source of new information of general importance. In general, it has been established beyond any doubt that PM concentrations, especially those of fine PM in homes and houses, are usually higher or almost equal to those usually met in atmospheric air. Two factors are generally responsible for such a distribution of PM concentration: 1) free migration of outdoor PM inside the rooms and 2) the presence of various internal sources of PM emissions, i.e., household furnaces, chemicals, carpets, animals, etc. Therefore, it is obvious that beyond such determinants of the quantity and quality of indoor PM like internal emission sources, atmospheric and meteorological parameters are no less important.

Due to the various types of services provided inside public utilities and therefore the diversity of internal sources of PM and its gaseous precursors, both the chemical and physical properties of PM inside such facilities might be more complex than in the case of atmospheric PM. With the exception of facilities equipped with the simplest mechanical ventilation or high-efficiency air conditioning and purification systems, the importance of outdoor PM on the quality of indoor air is of great importance and should be quantified each time.

In terms of the PM pollution levels, Poland differs from other European countries. In fact, the levels of PM pollution (especially the levels of fine PM) registered in Polish cities exceed by even several times the concentrations usually met in other urbanized areas of Europe. Paradoxically, research concerning the presence of PM in the indoor air of living quarters in Poland is rather rare. In principle, there is no database

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and no standard concerning PM in living quarters in Poland. However, there is relatively rich data on air pollution in various non-residential premises like public utilities [47-53], some of which is information derived from measurements of the relationships between indoor and outdoor PM. This article contains a comprehensive review of different studies on PM in the indoor air of non-residential and non-industrial facilities with a particular emphasis on the Polish scientific literature. This study draws attention to a special type of room – closed sports facilities – in which comprehensive research on PM pollution has not been conducted so far.

Results and Discussion

The number of publications on indoor air quality, as in the case of outdoor air, is very high (Fig. 1). Over the last decade, the intensity of publishing research devoted to PM in closed rooms has increased by at least several times. The situation is different in Poland, where the results of comprehensive PM research in various types of closed facilities have emerged into the international arena only within the last few years. Both the above-mentioned facts have an impact on 1) the ever-growing number of articles on PM in indoor air all around the world and 2) widely disseminated information

Table 1. PM levels in closed non-residential facilities – selected world publications.

No.	Ref.	Country, sampling site	Measurement period	PM fraction and analysis method	Results/comments
1.	[54]	Portugal, a total of nine classrooms were monitored, eight integrated in elementary schools and one in a kindergarten	9-29 January 2012; 6-h measurements	PM_{10} concentration by light scattering technique; $PM_{2.5}$ concentration by the gravimetric method. Additional measurements of temperature, relative humidity (RH), CO_2, CO, and total volatile organic compounds (TVOCs).	The research has shown that the source of high concentrations of PM was, to a large extent, due to a faulty ventilation system. Continuous measurements of PM_{10} suggest that the physical activity of pupils (greater for older children than in case of younger children), contributes to the re-suspension of dust particles and therefore their increased deposition on underlying surfaces.
2.	[55]	Homes, offices and surroundings in Canadian cities	1999-2010	PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ by optical and gravimetric methods.	The research was conducted as part of a national research project on air quality and was carried out in selected offices and homes. At the end of the project, a guide was created on how to reduce the high concentration of PM suspended in indoor air.
3.	[56]	USA, office buildings and their surroundings	2012, 24-h measurements	Low-cost optical PM sensors (Total Suspended Particles - TSP).	The experiment was carried out in the main corridor of Cory Hall on University of California Berkeley campus. The results showed that local human activity, measured visually by a camera, was correlated with the concentration of coarse particles, particularly those ≥2.5 μm.
4.	[57]	Iran, primary schools and their surroundings	October 2011 – June 2012; 26-day campaign, 5.5-h measurements	PM_1, $PM_{2.5}$, and PM_{10} by optical methods with parallel gravimetric methods.	In schools located near both main and small roads, the association between indoor fine particle ($PM_{2.5}$ and PM_1) and outdoor $PM_{2.5}$ levels was stronger than that between indoor PM_{10} and outdoor $PM_{2.5}$ levels.
5.	[58]	Finland, kitchen in an apartment and lecture room inside the university	September 2013	$PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10} by optical and gravimetric methods.	The article compares the concentration of PM inside (I) selected types of rooms and outside (O) and also compares the concentration of pollutants depending on the ventilation solution (no ventilation in the kitchen, mechanical ventilation in classroom). The results obtained indicate that the lowest I/O ratio according to the results in the apartment was with the window open and the fan switched on, whereas the best result in the classroom was with the mechanical ventilation system with filter switched on and the window open.
6.	[59]	Brasil, construction jobsites	10-day measurements during construction activities (earthworks, superstructure and finishing)	$PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10}, and TSP by gravimetric methods.	The findings show that the activities on construction sites emit different types of particles with environmental impacts through a higher emission of TSP. The concentration values obtained for PM_{10} in this study did not exceed the limits set by the Brazilian standards; however, some of the concentration levels measured exceeded the standards set by the World Health Organization (WHO).

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Table 1. Cotinued.

7.	[60]	United Arab Emirates (UAE), 628 residences	5-month long campaign, each measurement lasting 7 days	TSP, PM_{10}, $PM_{2.5}$, and ultrafine PM by UNC Passive Aerosol Sampler.	Overall, indoor air quality in UAE residences is quite similar to other developed nations; concentrations of particles were lower indoors than outdoors. Indoor PM concentrations were higher in rural areas than urban locations, but outdoor PM concentrations were not significantly different between rural and urban locations. Indoor concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} were significantly associated with vehicles being parked within five metres of the home, with the use of central air conditioning, and with kitchens that were located within the residence.
8.	[61]	Malaysia, office buildings and surroundings	8-h measurements during working days	$PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10} by the gravimetric method.	The results presented indicate high concentrations of respirable and inhalable PM inside offices. Such a situation could contribute to increased exposure to solid particles suspended in indoor air. This could lead to negative health effects among office occupants which should stimulate building services to overcome these problems and take action to develop awareness among staff about health and safety in office buildings, especially regarding airborne particulates.
9.	[62]	Malaysia, university building	Measurement period June-December 2012; between 9:00 and 17:30 each day	PM_{10} by the gravimetric method.	The results presented indicate a high contamination of indoor air pollution in the Biology department of Malaysian University. It was found that the presence of indoor-related PM originated from the poorly maintained ventilation system, the activity of occupants, and typical office equipment such as printers and photocopy machines.

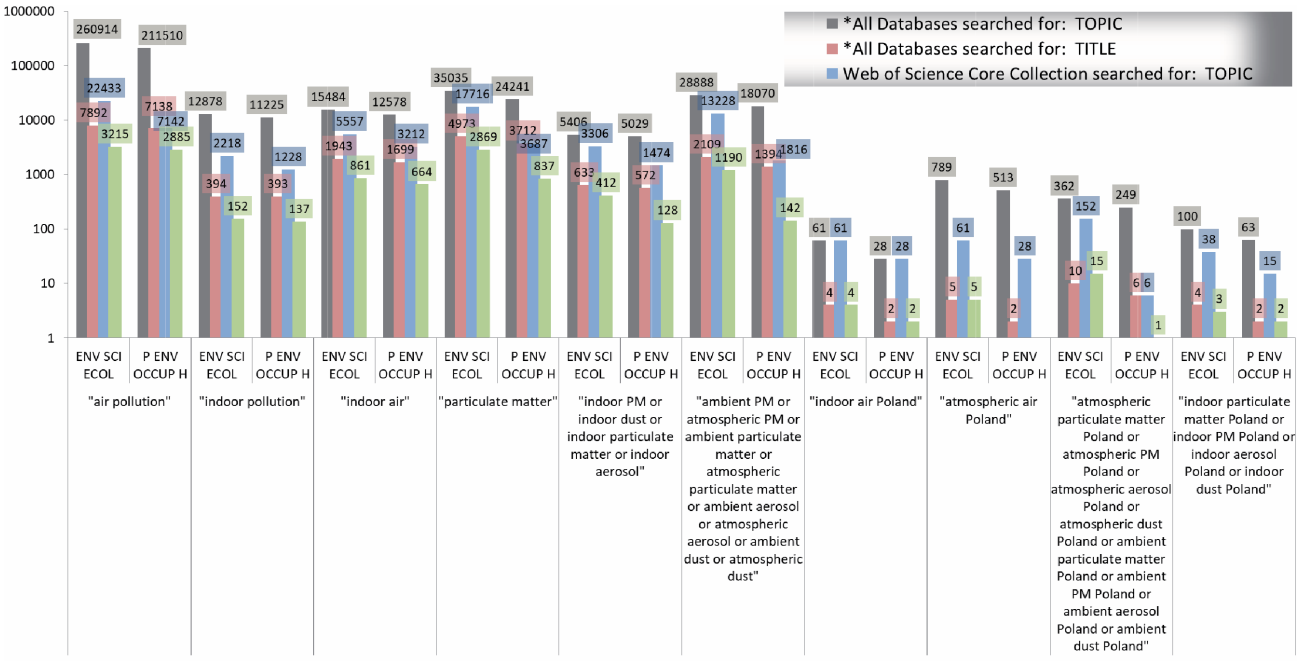

Fig. 1. Number (Y axis) of studies (including articles, reviews, corrections, books, proceedings papers, editorial materials, letters, reprints, meeting abstracts, book chapters, news item, retracted publication) published in peer-reviewed journals and indexed in All Databases (which includes the Science Citation Index: Web of Science Core Collection BIOSIS Citation Index Current Contents Connect, Data Citation Index, Derwent Innovations Index, KCI-Korean Journal Database, MEDLINE, Russian Science Citation Index, SciELO Citation Index, Zoological Record) and in Web of Science Core Collection only, assigned to the following subject categories: Environmental Science (Web of Science Core Collection) or Environmental Science Ecology (All Databases) and Public, Environmental and Occupational Health (X axis: ENV SCI ECOL; P ENV OCCUP H). Studies are identified through periodic searches using the specific search criteria (X axis). For this review, studies indexed from January 2007 up to June 2018 were included.

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Table 2. Research on indoor air in Polish literature.

No.	Ref.	Country, sampling site	Measurement period	PM fraction and analysis method	Results/comments
Studies related to PM in the indoor environment					
1.	[63]	Poland, elementary school in Wroclaw	2009/2010 winter and summer seasons	PM_1, $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10} by the gravimetric method.	The influence of aerosol particles on lung function was investigated by measurements of lung function parameters in children at a secondary school located in the centre of the city of Wroclaw. A short-term causal relationship between the concentration of PM inside the school and the change in spirometric parameters has been documented.
2.	[49]	Poland, three secondary schools in Lublin	Heating and non-heating seasons; measurements before and during lectures in six occupied and unoccupied classrooms	Mass and number concentration of PM, humidity, temperature, and CO_2 concentrations.	Research showed that the concentration of PM was particularly high during the heating season. The particle exposures experienced by students were higher in the monitored classrooms than outdoors and were on average about 50% higher in the heating than in the non-heating season. A positive correlation between mass concentrations of coarse particles and indoor air temperature, RH, and CO_2 concentrations in both seasons was observed. The concentrations of fine particles were negatively correlated with the indoor air parameters in the heating season and positively correlated in the non-heating season.
3.	[50]	Poland, nursery schools in urban and rural areas of Upper Silesia	2013/2014 winter season	Concentrations of PM (PM_1, $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10}, and total-TSP) by the gravimetric method; CO_2 concentration measurements using automatic portable monitors.	The results demonstrated the problem of elevated concentrations of PM inside the examined classrooms as well as that of high levels of CO_2 exceeding 1000 ppm in relation to outdoor air. The characteristics of indoor air quality were significantly different, both in terms of classroom occupation (younger or older children) and location (urban or rural).
4.	[51]	Poland, nursery schools in urban and rural areas of Upper Silesia	Winter and spring season; measurements conducted from Monday morning to Friday afternoon between 7:30 and 15:30	$PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{2.5}$-bound trace metals.	The results indicated that there is a problem with elevated concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ inside the examined classrooms. Indoor $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations exceeded the WHO guidelines regardless of the season and location. Outdoor $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations were significantly lower than those indoors; however, they met the WHO guidelines only in spring at rural sites.
5.	[64]	Poland, teaching rooms in two universities located in Gliwice and Warsaw.	April–May 2015	Concentration of PM_1 and the presence of PM_1-bound Hg.	The concentration of PM_1 inside Gliwice and Warsaw universities was slightly lower than the outdoor (atmospheric) concentration. In Gliwice, the concentration of PM_1-bound mercury in the lecture halls was definitely higher than in the outdoor air, and the mercury concentration (including both indoor and outdoor concentrations) was higher than in Warsaw. In Warsaw, the source of Hg_p inside the teaching room was mainly due to the infiltration of atmospheric (outdoor) Hg_p, through open windows. In Gliwice, a part of the indoor Hg_p was from outdoor PM_1 and some part was probably created from secondary reactions that occurred between mercury and gases present in the tested rooms.

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6.	[65]	Poland, air-conditioned hall at the Lublin University of Technology	Spring season (4-11 April 2012; 11-19 April 2012)	Number concentration and mass concentration of PM, temperature, CO_2 concentration, and air humidity.	This research proved the relationship between the tested parameters and the settings of the ventilation system.
7.	[66]	Poland, Roman Catholic church in Urzedów near Lublin	Three masses, each lasting 60 minutes, in various atmospheric conditions	Number concentration and mass concentration of PM during mass.	The highest concentration values were recorded during a mass on a rainy day (241.1 μg/m^3, 23.9 pt/cm^3). The concentrations inside the church were definitely higher than outside.
8.	[67]	Poland, university buildings	December 2015 – March 2016; winter season; 83 independent observations with a duration of 90 minutes	Indoor–outdoor relations for PM_{10} mass concentration by the gravimetric method.	The concentration of PM_{10} in the university's rooms depended on the ventilation system and on the type of activities performed in the given room. During the periods corresponding to periodic room ventilation, the mass concentration of PM in the lecture rooms was similar to the levels measured at the same time in the air surrounding the building.
9.	[30]	Poland, underground chamber complex of the Wieliczka Salt Mine Health Resort	7–20 July 2015, 10-day campaign	Mass concentration and chemical composition of PM, collected in the chamber complex of the underground health resort. TSP was measured by the gravimetric method.	The measurements showed that the underground ambient concentration of PM and its chemical composition depended mostly on the nature of the rock material present in the ventilation tunnel of the health resort, which filtered the incoming air. The external concentrations and activities performed by the patients also had an effect on the concentration and composition of the dust. The reported concentration was not high compared to concentrations in the external environment or in other rooms.
10.	[68]	Poland, two kindergartens located in the Silesia region (urban and rural areas)	17 March to 9 April 2010 and 10 April to 3 May 2010; spring season	A comparison of $PM_{2.5}$ concentrations inside and outside the tested locations and concentration of 15 polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons compounds together with an analysis of the mutagenic and carcinogenic potential of PAHs. PM concentration and its mutagenic compounds were measured using the gravimetric method.	Concentrations of PM (>25 μg/m^3) were similar in both considered areas. Among the analysed PAHs, the most frequent was benzo(a)pyrene. High concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ and $PM_{2.5}$-bound PAH constitute a serious source of mutagenic and carcinogenic risks for preschool children.

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11.	[69]	Poland, beauty salon and printing office located in Bytom city	18–31 July 2015 in the beauty salon and 18–29 August 2015 in the printing office	TSP, PM_4, and PM-bound organic and elemental carbon.	The TSP and PM4 fraction concentrations inside the printing office and beauty salon was very high, even up to eight times higher compared to outdoors. Emissions of organic compounds related to the indoor activities, like the usage of cosmetics containing hydrocarbons, alcohols, esters, phenols, etc., significantly increased the contribution of secondary and primary matter.
12.	[70]	Poland, restaurant kitchen, printing office and beauty salon located in Bytom city	1–30 September 2016	PM_4, TSP, PM-bound OC and EC, PM-bound metals, PM-bound ions.	Inside the beauty salon and restaurant kitchen, the concentrations of PM_4 were much higher compared to atmospheric air (I/O>5). Inside the printing office this ratio was <1, indicating the influence of external air pollution on the indoor concentrations of the PM_4 fraction. In the beauty salon and printing office, the main source of PM macro-components, especially organic carbon, were chemicals which are normally used in such places – solvents, varnishes, paints.
13.	[71]	Poland, sports hall in Warsaw	December 2016 to January 2017	PM_4, TSP, PM-bound PAHs.	The main source of fine PM (PM_4) and PM-bound PAHs in the sports hall was atmospheric air. Carcinogenic, mutagenic and toxic equivalents values suggest that the exposure of sports hall users to PAHs is significantly higher than the exposure resulting from concentrations recorded in the atmospheric air.
Polish studies related to bioaerosols in the indoor environment					
14.	[72]	Poland, educational settings (kindergartens, primary schools, middle schools)	Winter season	Microbiological contamination, i.e., fungi, bacteria: coli, staphylococcus, mesophylls, hemolytic.	The concentration of microbial contaminants in the analysed settings was rather high compared to EU standards. The highest level of contamination occurred in the corridors and classes during lectures. After the classes, the level of bacteria decreased significantly. The most common were staphylococcus and hemolytic bacteria, whereas coliforms were found only in some of the examined locations.
15.	[73]	Poland, rooms at Poznań University (library, reading room, corridor, toilets, canteen, dean's office, chemical laboratory)	September to October 2012 and 2013; two times a day: in the morning and in the afternoon	Microbiological contamination, i.e., Staphylococcus spp., Micrococcus spp., Serratia spp., Aspergillus spp., Penicillium spp., Rhizopus spp., Cladosporium spp., and Alternaria spp.	Research results indicate the presence of mesophilic bacteria and fungi in the air of university interiors. The level of microbial contamination changed during the day, and a particularly high concentration of bacteria occurred in the afternoon. Only in the reading room was the situation stable; the level of bacteria and fungi did not change and was much lower compared with other rooms.
16.	[74]	Poland, three laboratory rooms designed for raising broiler chickens under identical conditions	Winter season (3.01-7.02); summer season (22.05-29.06); twice a week at 7:00, 13:00, and 21:00	Microbial contamints: bacteria and fungi without distinction to particular types.	The concentrations of aerobic mesophilic bacteria and fungi were higher in the winter than in the summer in all rooms. The various levels of microbial air contamination had no effect on broiler chicken production results.

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17.	[75]	Poland, air-conditioned offices	Winter season (October–March 2009)	Microbial contamination in the indoor air (bacteria and fungi).	In winter, the content of bioaerosols in the indoor air was higher than outdoors. The level of microbiological contamination was determined by an efficient and systematically cleaned ventilation system. Microbiological contaminants can penetrate the human body and become deposited in the mouth or nasal cavity (similar to PM).
18.	[76]	Poland, library at Toruń University	Winter season October 2009 – March 2010; measurements two times a day, i.e., in the morning before work and in the afternoon	Microbial contamination (bacteria and fungi) inside and outside the library.	The highest concentrations were recorded during the presence of the largest number of occupants. There were more bacteria in the air of the library than fungi.
19.	[77]	Poland, five schools in Lublin city	During the heating period 15.03.2012 to 29.03.2012; during the non-heating period 10.05.2012 to 29.05.2012, before and during lectures	Microbial contamination (bacteria and fungi) inside schools.	School No.1 located in the city centre was characterized by the highest concentration of bacteria in the classroom reaching $6.5 \cdot 10^3$ CFU/m^3 which was higher than the accepted standard.
20.	[78]	Poland, dental office in Lublin city	9-day period, 24 June to 2 July 2013	Aerosols and bioaerosols in the dental office.	High particle concentrations in the operating room were observed during dental procedures – this phenomenon applied to all PM fractions. The highest increase of submicron particle concentrations was observed during dental grinding and drilling of composite fillings both with and without the use of water. Indoor air contamination by bacteria and fungi was higher in the operating room than in the adjacent room. The number of bacteria in the operating room slightly exceeded (by approx. 1.5 times) the outdoor levels.
21.	[79]	Poland, four libraries and one archive storeroom: The Kórnik Library of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Nicolaus Copernicus University Library in Toruń, Voivodeship Public Library, the Copernicus Library in Toruń, and the National Archive 2nd Division in Toruń	Sampling performed twice: before and after the renovation works and cleaning of the collections	Gram-positive cocci; Gram-positive non-sporulating rods; Gram-positive endospore forming rods; Gram-negative rods.	In total, 36 bacterial species in 18 genera and 17 fungal species in 13 genera were identified among the microorganisms existing in the air at the workplaces and storerooms studied. The total bioaerosol concentrations in most storerooms at the workplaces, both before and after starting work, fell within the range 142–798 cfu/m^3. The concentrations of fungal aerosols (after excluding storeroom C) fell within the range 19–86 cfu/m^3, with the concentration of bacterial aerosols within the range 123–712 cfu/m^3. Renovation and mechanical cleaning considerably improved the microbial quality of the air inside storerooms.
22.	[80]	Poland, 70 dwellings – mostly flats in 4–10 storey buildings and 15 offices located in the Silesia region	Sampling performed between 1996 and1998; in each dwelling the measurements were done twice: once in summer and once in winter	Bacterial and fungal bioaerosol in healthy and mouldy homes as well as in office rooms in the Upper Silesia Industrial Zone.	A typical level of bacterial aerosols indoors was about 10^3 CFU/m^3 in homes and 10^2 CFU/m^3 in offices. The concentration of fungal aerosols in winter ranged from 10 to 10^2 CFU/m^3 in healthy homes and from 10 to 10^3 CFU/m^3 in homes with mould problems. During the hot (summer) period, this number increased to 10^3 CFU/m^3 in healthy homes and 10^3–10^4 CFU/m^3 in mouldy buildings.
23.	[81]	Poland, schools in the cities of Olsztyn and Dobre Miasto	Heating and non-heating season	Yeast-like fungi and yeasts.	A comparison of both habitats shows that school rooms posed a greater epidemiological risk of yeast-like infections than outdoor air. Rooms with intense use, especially where light access was limited, had the broadest spectrum of species of yeast-like fungi.

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24.	[82]	Poland, terrarium store in Cracow city	Spring, 2015	Bioaerosols: bacteria and fungi collected in the room with terrariums, room with the cash register, and back of the store.	By quantitatively analysing the fungal aerosols it was found that the highest concentration was recorded in the air in the cash register room (8068 CFU/m^3) and the lowest in the external air (92 CFU/m^3), whereas the highest concentration of bacterial aerosols occurred in the room with terrariums.
25.	[83]	Poland, Rural nursery schools in Gliwice city – younger and older children's classrooms	Winter and spring season	Selected volatile organic compounds, different fractions of PM (indoor: PM_1, $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10}, and TSP; outdoor: $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}) and bioaerosols as well as CO_2 concentrations.	Results indicate that, generally, indoor air was more polluted compared to outdoor air. Elevated concentrations of $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} inside the examined classrooms were well correlated with high levels of CO_2 exceeding 1000 ppm. Significant differences in PM pollution were found between older and younger children's classrooms resulting from occupancy intensity, ventilation differences, and distinct activities. The total concentrations of bacterial aerosols obtained in indoor air during the spring season were comparable to those of the previous study conducted in urban nursery schools, which found levels between 2545 and 2890 CFU/m^3.
26.	[84]	Poland, 17 libraries located in 8 cities of the Silesia region (Będzin, Bytom, Czeladź, Częstochowa, Dąbrowa Górnicza, Katowice, Sosnowiec)	Summer season 2005–2007	Bioaerosols: bacteria and fungi.	The research has shown that the hygienic condition of the examined libraries located in the Silesian Voivodship in terms of their microbiological pollution is good. Concentrations of bacterial and fungal aerosols in the tested libraries were low and did not exceed the recommended values.
27.	[85]	Poland, 45 public utility buildings in Cracow city: teaching rooms of the University of Agriculture (UR) in Cracow (Poland), Jagiellonian University (UJ) rooms, churches, shopping malls, and healthcare facilities	December 2012, winter season	Fungal aerosol concentration.	The concentration of airborne fungi in the majority of the examined premises was low and did not exceed 10^3 CFU/m^3; therefore, it fell within the acceptable limit. The highest mean concentration of fungal aerosol was found in the teaching facilities of UR and UJ (1970 CFU/m^3). Species identification of isolated fungi revealed the presence of 26 fungal genera and/or species. The presence of potentially allergenic and toxin induced fungi emphasizes the need for continuous monitoring of air quality in public utility buildings.
28.	[86]	60 human dwellings situated in 15 towns of the Upper Silesian conurbation: flats without additional emission sources of particulate aerosols and microorganisms, flats with persons who smoke at least one packet of cigarettes per day, and flats located near steelworks	20-month period, during all four seasons	Size distribution of bacteria and fungi.	The prevailing group of bacteria present in the air of dwellings were *Micrococcus*/*Kocuria* spp., *Staphylococcus* spp., *Bacillus* spp., *Pseudomonadaceae*, *Aeromonas* spp., and *Nocardia* spp. In flats without additional emission sources, they occurred mostly as single particles, whereas in the air of dwellings inhabited by tobacco smokers they often formed aggregates composed of bacterial and dust particles.
29.	[87]	Poland, Underground Riese Complex	June and July 2013	Bioaerosols: fungi concentration.	Fungal spore concentration and number of species in the Riese complex did not exceed norms of the microbiological quality of air and, thus, do not present a health risk to tourists. The environment surrounding the underground objects and the air currents seem to have the most significant influence on fungi concentrations inside the facility.

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Table 3. Research on the quality of indoor air inside sports facilities.

No.	Ref.	Country	Analysed facility	Tested parameters	Results/comments
1.	[88]	Canada	Ice hockey arena	PM_{10}, mutagenicity testing.	During the ice hockey games at which spectators were permitted to smoke anywhere in the stadium, the PM_{10} air levels decreased. Mutagenic activity was measured as the number of revertants per m^3. Authors stated that since the smoking restrictions did not result in a complete ban, the data are not sufficient to determine the extent to which cigarette smoke contributed to the measured PM_{10} and mutagenic activity.
2.	[89]	Hong Kong, China	14 public places including two sports centres	SO_2, CO, CO_2, NO, NO_2, total hydrocarbons (THC), and PM_{10}.	The indoor air quality of public places is greatly affected by the outdoor air quality due to poor ventilation systems. Except for the sports facility located in a rural site, in almost all public places the outdoor PM_{10} concentrations were exceeded. The average I/O ratio was equal to or less than one indicating that the indoor air quality is affected by outdoor sources.
3.	[90]	Hong Kong, China	Three ice skating rinks; two to three sets of samples collected each day to reflect the effects of ice resurfacing on air quality	CO, CO_2, VOCs, $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10}, NO, NO_2, NO_x, and SO_2.	The main pollutants produced by ice resurfacing were CO, NO, NO_2, and TVOCs. The $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} concentrations in outdoor air were higher than those inside and outside the rinks, likely due to the PM produced by vehicles.
4.	[91]	Norway	Artificial turf halls	PM_{10}, $PM_{2.5}$, and the concentration of VOCs and PAHs.	PM was collected on filters using aspirators. The filters were then analysed for their VOCs and PAHs contents. PM composition was determined primarily by the components of the artificial surface. The observed concentration did not differ from the standards, which was due to the efficient ventilation system in the buildings.
5.	[92]	Norway	Ergometer trials	PM_1 concentration.	The article examines the effect of PM_1 concentration on exercise performance in healthy subjects. The tests were carried out in conditions of both low and high air dustiness. Measurements in both states were separated by a 3-day break. The test subjects examined were 15 healthy hockey players around 19 years of age. The results suggest that physical activity should be performed in conditions of low air dustiness, especially for sports competitions. The article also proposes solutions aimed at limiting the exposure of athletes to high concentrations of PM, e.g., afforestation around the area or locating new sports facilities away from communication routes.
6.	[93]	Greece, The Peace and Friendship Stadium (PFS) and The Athens Olympic Sports Complex-Indoor Sports Hall (AOSC). Sampling period 15/2/02–2/3/02 and 8/3/02–2/4/02 for PFS and AOSC, respectively.	Two large athletic halls with different ventilation systems (natural and mechanical)	O_3, NO, NO_2, and SO_2 inside the halls; benzene, toluene, xylenes concentrations at the spectators' seats; outdoor, CH_4, PM_{10}, and CO concentrations.	It was found that outdoor pollution significantly affected the indoor air quality of both halls. This effect strongly depended on the ventilation type, the wind direction prevailing in the area, and the kind of indoor activity.
7.	[94]	Zurich, Switzerland	Fitness centres versus forests	Questionnaire distributed in four fitness centres and at four forest sites.	Feelings regarding everyday hassles and improvement in mental balance were more pronounced after exercise in the forest; increases in perceived physical well-being and stress reduction were higher indoors.

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Table 3. Continued

8.	[95]	Central part of Prague (Czech Republic); eight campaigns, seven to ten days long, from November 2005 through August 2006	School gym during exercises	PM: 2.5-10 μm, 1.0-2.5 μm, 0.5-1.0 μm, 0.25–0.5 μm and <0.25 μm.	The indoor coarse fraction concentration ($PM_{2.5–10}$) was associated with the number of exercising children, indicating that human activity is its main source. High pulmonary ventilation rate during exercises and high outdoor PM concentrations indicate that the levels of both coarse and fine aerosols may represent a potential health risk for sensitive individuals during their physical education.
9.	[96]	Canada	Recreation facilities	Concentration of CO_2, CO, VOCs, NO_2, and PM.	This publication is a guide describing the parameters that are important for maintaining proper air quality in sports facilities, describing the actions that should be taken to eliminate air pollution in such facilities. The publication contains several tips and theories on air quality in sports facilities.
10.	[97]	Urban, suburban and rural elementary school gyms in Prague (Czech Republic); November 2005 and August 2009	School gyms	PM: 2.5–10 μm, 1.0–2.5 μm, 0.5–1.0 μm, 0.25–0.5 μm, and <0.25 μm.	The indoor concentrations of coarse aerosols were elevated during days with scheduled physical education with an average indoor–outdoor (I/O) ratio of 2.5–16.3 for $PM_{10–2.5}$ and 1.4–4.8 for $PM_{2.5–1.0}$. The most abundant particles were those of crustal origin composed of Si, Al, O, and Ca.
11.	[98]	Germany	Climbing rooms	Mass and number concentration of PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ and their size fractionation.	The measurement of PM concentration was performed using an optical method synchronized with the hybrid particle monitoring method. The measured concentrations reached very high values (PM_{10} up to 4000 μg/m^3, $PM_{2.5}$ up to 500 μg/m^3). The source of PM was mainly talcum for hand sprinkling.
12.	[99]	Cassino, Central Italy; March to May 2011	12 school gyms	PM_{10}, $PM_{2.5}$, and PM_1.	High concentrations of PM were observed especially during pupils' activities. The dose of coarse particles (in the range 2.5–10 μm) for a 10-year old child during one hour of physical activity was estimated as 70.3 μg/h, which is 12.9 times higher than the dose they would experience if seated in class. It was also found that CO_2 measurement is a useful proxy for the contribution of pupils' physical activity to the coarse particle exposure in naturally ventilated school gyms.
13.	[100]	Delhi, India; 3–14 October 2010	Sports venues in and around the city	PM_{10}, $PM_{2.5}$, CO, and NO measured simultaneously at ten different urban locations (six inside the stadium and four outside).	PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ levels during the sampling period were 229.7 ± 85.5 and 112.1 ± 56.0 μg/m^3, respectively, which is far in excess of the 60 and 40 μg/m^3 annual averages permitted by the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, respectively. Fine particle ($PM_{2.5}$) concentrations inside the stadium were ~18 % lower than those measured outside the stadium. A significant correlation between PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ suggested the possibility of similarity in the sources.
14.	[101]	Spain	Two university sports facilities: a fronton and a gymnasium	CO_2, CO, VOCs, and PM_{10}.	The PM_{10} concentrations obtained during the occupancy periods ranged between 38 and 43 μg/m^3 in the fronton and from 154 to 198 μg/m^3 in the gymnasium.
15.	[102]	Portugal	11 fitness clubs in Lisbon	Temperature, humidity, concentration of O_3, CO_2, CO, VOCs, CH_2O, and PM (PM_{5-10}, $PM_{2.5-5}$, $PM_{1-2.5}$, $PM_{0.5-1}$, $PM_{0.3-0.5}$). Optical and gravimetric methods were used to determine PM concentrations.	The efficiency of air filtration is crucial for maintaining proper air quality. Intensive activities, a large number of people training who are more susceptible to air pollution during exercise, insufficient ventilation, and the small size of rooms contributed to high concentrations of PM in these facilities.

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Table 3. Continued

16.	[103]	Portugal	63 fitness classes	VOCs, CO_2, O_3, CO, CH_2O, PM_{10}, PM_5, $PM_{2.5}$, PM_1, and $PM_{0.5}$.	The inhaled doses of PM were higher in aerobic classes than in holistic classes. The main difference was registered for PM_{10}. Minute ventilation and PM_{10} concentrations in aerobic classes were, on average, 2.0 times higher than in holistic classes.
17.	[104]	Iran	Sports facilities	PM, tobacco smoke, concentration of CO, NO_2, dust mites, moulds, fungi, bacteria, and VOCs.	The article is an overview of possible indoor air pollution of sports facilities.
18.	[105]	United States	Gym halls	The content of flame retardants (FRs) in PM_4 and total suspended dust TSP. The PM concentration was measured by the gravimetric method. Air sampling lasted 8 hours a day for several days.	FRs are highly harmful substances found primarily in plastics that are used in sports facilities. To assess the content of these agents, the concentrations of respirable and inhalable dust were measured. The authors of the article compared the concentration of FRs inside gyms with the concentration of FRs in homes. The concentration of PM and FRs in sports facilities was several times higher than in homes.
19.	[106]	Korea; September to November 2013, without the distinction of seasons	64 screen golf courses located in the capital area; game rooms and lobbies of the screen golf courses	PM_{10}, TVOCs, asbestos, Rn, CO, CO_2, NO_2, O_3, and total bacteria counts (TBC).	The average concentration of ten pollutants, which were investigated in the game room and lobbies of screen golf courses, did not exceed each pollutant standard set by the law. PM_{10} was emitted by the re-scattering of dust due to users' activities and smoking, whereas CO was emitted mainly by smoking in screen golf courses.
20.	[107]	Czech Republic	Sports rooms inside a university	PM_1, $PM_{2.5}$, PM_4, and PM_{10}; measurement by an optical monitor.	Measurements were performed using separate impactors for each of the measured fractions. The measurements were carried out in an empty room with the air conditioning switched off, then in a situation where the floor was not washed for 7 days and during physical activity of 27 people with the ventilation turned on. The author draws attention to the need to conduct research including quantitative and qualitative analysis of the measured dust. Studies have shown that the highest concentrations in the considered sports rooms were reached by the PM_1 fraction. Both the ventilation system and the regularity of cleaning affect the quality of the indoor air pollution.
21.	[108]	Slovenia: Rozna Dolina in Ljubljana;2 March to 4 April 2011	Sports gym during different activities such as football, basketball, volleyball, badminton, boxing, and fitness	Temperature, RH, and analysis of PM_{10} samples, black carbon.	The results suggest that a sportsman, on average, would experience a six-fold larger PM_{10} dose in 90 min while exercising indoors compared to the dose received while being inactive outdoors. Authors also state that the quality of indoor air can be improved by introducing efficient dust removal techniques, setting up specific rules of behaviour in the gym, and optimizing HVAC systems.

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about PM harmfulness. Scientific reports concerning the impact of PM on the environment (climate, biosphere, etc.), documenting that the state of indoor air quality in Poland in terms of PM pollution is at least the same or worse as in the atmosphere, as well as progress in measurement methods in recent years, are all driving forces for further research on indoor PM in Poland.

Many works published in recent years relate to the quality of indoor air in non-residential buildings. This is due to the fact that internal sources of PM and emission of PM gas precursors in specific flats and houses are already quite well recognized, and the main difference in air pollution between single houses or even between separate quarters with the same intended use is often a result of their different location. Only in cases where inside residential premises there are some specific sources of PM or PM precursors (i.e., the presence of animals or cigarette smoke, specific cosmetics, or printers) or the room is used in a non-specific way (i.e., very large number of occupants, very large or very low air exchange) may the observed situation in terms of airborne PM pollution as well as its relationship with outdoor (atmospheric) air pollution be specific and worth considering.

Table 1 presents the results of PM measurements in non-residential facilities found in the literature. This is only a small slice of all the works in this field. We selected only those articles that appeared between 2012 and 2017. Our summary also includes all Polish works on air quality in non-residential facilities published in international journals between 2011 and 2018 (Table 2). These articles concern non-residential facilities like offices, universities, or kindergartens, where the mass or number concentration of PM was estimated (Table 2). Some of them also concern the contents of mainly toxic, PM-bound compounds. The largest number of Polish research studies on the quality of indoor air relate to the microbiological cleanliness of the air and hence the concentration of various types of fungi and/or bacteria (Table 2). However, with respect to international research, one can notice some interesting aspects discussed in the research conducted by Polish groups. These include, for example, an interesting location for the measurements, for example in historical buildings, doctor's surgeries, or in an underground health resort.

The research on the properties of PM in various rooms covers a very wide spectrum, including the type of rooms and different PM components as well as quite diverse PM fractions (Table 1). This is due to the fact that from week to week, new research concerning the quality of indoor air appears in the literature. However, despite this, it is still a fraction of all of the results published world-wide on this topic. This short review also shows that only in recent years were some works devoted to the quality of indoor air in sports facilities (Table 3) and the consequences of their pollution on the health of athletes. Facilities of this kind have never been thoroughly examined in terms of the chemical characteristics of the PM pollution, and in Poland the PM concentrations in such a type of facility have not been examined at all.

In the studies of air quality inside sports facilities, authors focus their attention not only on the issues concerning the parameters of internal air but also on aspects of their influence on specific functions of athletes' bodies. In Beijing during the Olympic Games in 2008, high CO concentrations were recorded, which may accelerate the heart rate and decrease the maximal oxygen uptake, potentially penalizing athletic performance, especially in endurance competitions like marathons [109]. The problem of air pollution during the Olympic Games in Beijing was noticed by athletes who during training and leisure time used special facemasks. Several countries located their pre-Olympic training camps outside China, especially in Japan or South Korea. Some athletes even pulled out of the Games due to air pollution [109]. In turn, Bos et. al. investigated the effects of PM exposure during aerobic training on inflammatory biomarkers: the serum brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), an assumed mediator of exercise-induced cognitive improvements, and cognitive performance [110]. In this study, two groups of volunteers completed aerobic training (lasting 12 weeks, 3 times a week) in two different kinds of area: urban and residential. In the urban environment, the changes in all marker levels after training showed a positive correlation with the personal average exposure to ultrafine particles. Moreover Bos and his team analysed the influence of air pollution on cardiovascular and respiratory function, including exercise capacity [110]. Results were collected from 5604 subjects during the Canada Health Measures Survey. It was found that exposure to higher concentrations of air pollution was associated with higher resting blood pressure and lower ventilatory function, and ozone was associated with reduced exercise capacity.

According to the Small Encyclopedia of Sport [111], a sports facility is a building or place that provides a particular service designed for sports purposes. Generally, we can distinguish two types of sports facilities: indoor facilities – purposely built buildings used for sports like swimming, basketball, badminton, and gymnastics – and outdoor facilities – including pitches (football, rugby, hockey, cricket, etc.), tracks (athletics, horse, dog, and motor racing), purposely built water facilities (rowing, kayaking, sailing), and natural features (like hills and mountains for hiking and climbing and the sea for surfing). The quality of air in outdoor facilities depends on the quality of the atmospheric air and, consequently, on changing weather conditions. A different reasoning applies to closed buildings, where maintaining indoor air quality is done through adequate ventilation, which should provide the facility with an adequate amount of fresh air, guarantee satisfactory thermal comfort and proper

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humidity, adapted to the number of occupants and their physical activity, and should discharge the "used" air outside [112-117]. Other parameters that testify to the quality of indoor air inside sports facilities are the concentration ratio of oxygen to carbon dioxide, the presence of mould and dampness, concentration of VOCs, microbiological contamination, and others [118-119].

Two of the most common types of particulate matter inside buildings are thick dust – settled on furniture, floor, room equipment, and different underlying surfaces (its presence is generally associated with mechanical processes, i.e., building demolition, occupant movement, resuspension of retained dust, erosion of equipment, etc.) and fine particles, which can migrate into indoor environments through doors, windows, cracks, leaks, and other unintentional openings in the building envelope [120]. PM is a kind of indoor pollutant that reflects the overall sanitary state of a particular room. Examination of its physicochemical properties allows us to form conclusions about other pollutants, which for example are involved in its formation and transformations. Thanks to the measurements of PM concentration and its chemical and physical characteristics, it is also possible to indicate the general conditions prevailing inside the room (for example by examining the direction and intensity of transformations and reactions of PM gaseous precursors).

An important issue regarding PM particles in sports facilities which shouldn't be ignored is its negative effect on human health. This mostly concerns people who train intensively in conditions of high air dustiness. Fine particles easily get into the lungs and are commonly deposited in the alveoli, ultimately disturbing gas exchange. For athletes training inside dusty facilities, this means that under high concentrations of PM, their performance during activity will be reduced [121]. In addition, during intensive training, most of the inhaled air enters into the body directly through the mouth [122-123], avoiding the clearing mechanisms of the upper respiratory tract – the first line of defence. During normal nasal breathing, the majority of PM particles with dimensions of 2 μm and above [108] are practically retained and removed mechanically by nose wiping, blowing, sneezing, etc. As the intensity of exercise increases, the volume, rate, and intensity of breathing also increase. In such cases both coarse and fine particles are transferred into the respiratory tract. The oxygen demand among elite athletes is definitely higher than in the case of any other person. The health benefits of regular exercise and physical activity also include, among others, an increase in the minute tidal volume [124]. During exercise breathing becomes deeper and faster; therefore, athletes are more exposed to air pollution – including PM – compared to people who do not engage in any sports activity.

Measurement Problems

The above tables show that different methods and techniques are used in measuring PM concentrations. The gravimetric method is considered an absolute standard due to the fact that it is a reference method [125-129]. However, there are numerous papers showing the influence of reactions between deposited dust and air, for example, water vapour desorption or absorption of water vapour from air, chemical decomposition of PM-bound gas pollutants (NOx, SO_X, and VOCs), or the influence of the temperature and air humidity on the concentration of dust [130-132]. Moreover, measurements with the standard reference method do not provide the opportunity to track PM concentrations in real time. For these reasons, automatic online monitors with high time resolution are widely used in air pollution measurements, for example the tapered element oscillating microbalance (TEOM – the measurement method consists of the change of frequency of an oscillatory balance) [130, 133-134] or optical meters based on beta attenuation (DustTrak, Eberline – the measurement method is based on the absorption of beta radiation) [102, 135-137]. Nevertheless, due to the vulnerability of optical devices and TEOM to air humidity and seasonal temperature changes which cause overstating of the measurement results, these monitors are not considered as reference methods [138-146]. Due to the wide spectrum of measuring capabilities of automatic monitors, many scientists use them; however, they first conduct equivalence tests between candidate samplers and the gravimetric method. Hauck et al. [134] conducted separate equivalence tests for one year for PM_1, $PM_{2.5}$, PM_{10}, and TSP fractions in various locations as well as in different measurement seasons (heating and non-heating). Simultaneous with the PM concentrations, measurements of the PM chemical composition, meteorological conditions, and concentrations of gaseous pollutants were analysed. Vardoulakis and Kassomenos, simultaneously with the equivalence tests, also measured other pollutants (NOx, CO, O_3, and SO_2) and meteorological parameters (wind speed, temperature, relative humidity, precipitation, solar energy, radiation, and atmospheric pressure) to then analyse the correlation between the above parameters and PM concentrations depending on the measurement season [144]. Noteworthy is the long, three-year duration of the measurements (2001-2003).

Gehrig et al. developed a new method combining PM_{10} data from automatic monitors (beta-attenuation) with a limited number of gravimetric PM_{10} values which are available for every fourth day from the National Air Pollution Monitoring Network (NABEL) in Switzerland [135]. Measurements were carried out simultaneously in various locations (urban areas, suburbs, highways, street canyons, rural areas). The conditioning and weighing of the filters used at different measurement locations were conducted in

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the same laboratory under the same temperature and humidity conditions. Based on the measurements, the correction coefficients were determined separately for the summer and winter seasons, due to the influence of atmospheric conditions and VOC reactions. Gębicki and Szymańska also presented a lot of information and recommendations regarding the implementation of equivalence tests [137-138]. In their publications, they discussed the reference and non-reference methods for measuring the PM concentration and compared the results of equivalence tests carried out in accordance with the PN-EN 12341 standard and the EU guidebook [129].

In almost all of the above-listed publications, non-reference samplers are recommended. However, the most important condition for their application is equivalence tests and separate determination of the correction factor for the summer and winter seasons. The authors of the studies point out that the distribution of inconsistent results with the gravimetric method creates a double risk. In the case of low results for PM concentrations, the population will be exposed to the deteriorating quality of the environment, affecting its health. On the other hand, inflated results can stimulate the launch of costly correction programmes.

Conclusions

Generally, in Poland measurements of indoor particulate matter should be conducted much more intensely and on a larger scale than in recent years. Determining the physicochemical properties of PM in closed sports facilities seems to be one of the most important future research problems within the indoor air quality investigation not only in Poland but all over the world. It is also important to determine the sources of PM and its components inside sports facilities and link these parameters with the parameters designated for ambient (atmospheric) PM. The diagnosis of these variables would be beneficial in determining the inhaled doses of PM during exercise, both in terms of singular short-term training but also in a longer time frame (several years) and even during the entire lifetime (athlete exposure scenario), and this would help to estimate a health risk assessment related to exposure to PM and its components. It seems that this problem may be particularly important for closed sports facilities when the existing ventilation system is not adapted to the size of the room and/or the intensity of its use, which may contribute to the accumulation of pollutants inside the facility and thus increase exposure to PM and its components.

Undoubtedly, before undertaking such extensive research, attention should be paid to refining the measurement methodology to the specifics of a given room or, more precisely, suitable for the type and properties of PM in a room.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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