SESSION n°3: CASE STUDIES HEALTHCARE DESIGN



Milano, Italy 11-14 April 2024 Design & Health





DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA, INGEGNERIA DELLE COSTRUZIONI E AMBIENTE COSTRUITO

13TH WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION REVITALIZING HEALTH BY SALUTOGENIC DESIGN Healthy environment | Healthy people

Urban Green Space Design and Impacts Maddalena Buffoli

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What are the evidence of Urban Green Spaces benefits ? Are all the effects investigated?

HUMAN

H F/A

SOCIAL EQUITY

CLIMATE

ECONOMIC

BIODIVERSITY

Urban Green Spaces & Health: Increasing of Epidemiological Studies



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health indicators. In particular, our aims were to analyze the association between publicly accessible urban greenspaces exposure and two selected health outcomes (objectively measured physical

anna.odone@unipy.it * Correspondence: and rea.rebecchi@polimi.it Abstract: The current review aimed to explore the association between urban greenspaces and

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Environmental Research and Public Health

activity (PA) and mental health outcomes (MH)). Two electronic databases-PubMed/Medline and Excerpta Medica dataBASE (EMBASE)-were searched from 1 January 2000 to 30 September 2020. Only articles in English were considered. Out of 356 retrieved articles, a total of 34 papers were included in our review. Of those, 15 assessed the association between urban greenspace and PA and 19 dealt with MH. Almost all the included studies found a positive association between urban greenspace and both PA and MH, while a few demonstrated a non-effect or a negative effect on MH outcomes. However, only guaranteeing access is not enough. Indeed, important elements are maintenance, renovation, closeness to residential areas, planning of interactive activities, and perceived security aspects. Overall, despite some methodological limitations of the included studies, the results have shown almost univocally that urban greenspaces harbour potentially beneficial effects on physical and mental health and well-being.

Keywords: physical activity; mental health; depression; anxiety; stress; green areas; green infrastructures; urban greenery; urban health; non-communicable diseases

1 Introduction

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Nowadays, humans live in a predominantly urban world. Between 1990 and 2000, the number of people living in urban areas rose by 25% [1]. Worldwide forecasts estimate that 6 out of 10 people will live in cities by 2030, a figure that will reach 8 out of 10 by 2050 [2]. This progressive increase has led the scientific community to explore and assess the urban environment's salutogenic effects [3]. On the one hand, urbanization has improved populations' health status, thanks to better career and education opportunities, and increased access to essential healthcare services [4,5]. On the other hand, rapidly growing cities pose new public health threats. Among those is the increase in social inequalities and lifestyle-related risk factors, such as lack of physical activity and unbalanced dietary habits [6,7], pollution and traffic, and the environmental degradation of natural areas [8] which, in turn, increase the incidence of a vast spectrum of diseases and conditions [9,10]. Overcrowding exacerbates the risks of communicable diseases (CD), as shown by the COVID-19 pandemic [11-13]. Urbanicity might also represent a risk factor for chronic non-communicable diseases (NCD) and other leading causes of death and disability, such

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www.mdpi.com/journal/jierph



- Recent Increase in scientific research to assess the health impacts of UGS (Urban Green Spaces).
- Several aspects still need to be explored: for example, the effects on mental health, inequalities and inclusion, safety, cultural implications, etc.
- Some established aspects: proximity to UGS and increased physical activity...
- **The design** of UGS (lighting, maintenance, services) influences the frequency of the area and activities carried out, but evidence-based research needs to be conducted.
- The most impactful associations occur with the promotion and involvement of local communities.

Prof Buffoli Maddoalena

Urban Green Spaces & Health: Study results

- Some effects have been investigated through both scientific research and quantitative mathematical calculations (particularly for environmental effects). It is now quantifiable the predictive effect of an urban greening operation on the large (IAQ, water runoff, canopy cover)
- Others (particularly social and mental ones) are more complex and difficult to quantify and investigate



World Health Organization

Urban nature and its health relevance_ presentation of Matthias Braubach at the event "Enabling naturebased health and social care through Knowledge Alliances" of the 1st Decemeber 2021

Study in Japan

The association between greenery, physical activity, and health is well-established and confirmed by all studies, valid for all ages (children, adolescents, adults, elderly).

913

Cohort study Sample: 3144 elderly residents

- Available space for walking (P<0.01)

associated with:

the residence (P<0.05)

The 5-year survival probability was found to be

- Number of parks and tree-lined streets near

- Hours of sun exposure at home (P<0.01)

RESEARCH REPORT

Urban residential environments and senior citizens' longevity in megacity areas: the importance of walkable green spaces

T Takano, K Nakamura, M Watanabe

J Epidemial Community Health 2002;56:913-918

Study objectives: To study the association between greenery filled public areas that are nearby a residence and easy to walk in and the longevity of senior citizens in a densely populated, developed megacity.

Design: Cohort study.

Methods: The authors analysed the five year survival of 3144 people born in 1903, 1908, 1913, or 1918 who consented to a follow up survey from the records of registered Tokyo citizens in relation to baseline residential environment characteristics in 1992.

Main results: The survival of 2211 and the death of 897 (98.9% follow up) were confirmed. The probability of five year survival of the senior citizens studied increased in accordance with the space for taking a stroll near the residence (p<0.01), parks and tree lined streets near the residence (p<0.05), and their preference to continue to live in their current community (p<0.01). The principal component analysis from the baseline residential environment characteristics identified two environment related factors: the factor of walkable green streets and spaces near the residence and the factor of a positive attitude to a person's own community. After controlling the effects of the residents' age, sex, marital status, and socioeconomic status, the factor of walkable green streets and spaces near the residence showed significant predictive value for the survival of the urban senior citizens over the following five years (p<0.01).

Conclusions: Living in areas with walkable green spaces positively influenced the longevity of urban senior citizens independent of their age, sex, marital status, baseline functional status, and socioeconomic status. Greenery filled public areas that are nearby and easy to walk in should be further emphasised in urban planning for the development and re-development of densely populated areas in a megacity. Close collaboration should be undertaken among the health, construction, civil engineering, planning, and other concerned sectors in the context of the healthy urban policy, so as to promote the health of senior citizens.

See end of article for authors' affiliations

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Litterature review

more physical activity, mental health , nature exposure, less NCD,



International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health



Association between Urban Greenspace and Health: A Systematic Review of Literature

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Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the use and perceptions of urban green space: An international exploratory study

Francesca Ugolini ^{a, *}, Luciano Massetti ^a, Pedro Calaza-Martínez ^b, Paloma Cariñanos ^c, Cynnamon Dobbs ^d, Silvija Krajter Ostoić ^e, Ana Marija Marin ^e, David Pearlmutter ^{f, a}, Hadas Saaroni ^g, Ingrida Šaulienė ^h, Maja Simoneti ⁱ, Andrej Verlič ^j, Dijana Vuletić ^e, Giovanni Sanesi ^k



Overview

- Physical and mental illnesses associated with sedentary urban lifestyles are an increasing economic and social cost.
- Areas with more accessible green space are associated with better mental and physical health.
- The risk of mortality caused by cardiovascular disease is lower in residential areas that have higher levels of 'greenness'.
- There is evidence that exposure to nature could be used as part of the treatment for some conditions.
- There are challenges to providing green spaces, such as how to make parks easily accessible and how to fund both their creation and maintenance.

Study in Netherlands The association between UGS and Social Benefit







- Observational studies correlate the presence of greenery with:
- Increased informal social contacts with neighbors, also correlated with a greater sense of security.
- Less aggressive behavior, and buildings have been associated with fewer crimes.
- Less loneliness and a lower perception of a lack of • social support (especially for the elderly, children, and people from disadvantaged classes).





Health & Place

Contenta nata available at Oblehoebireo

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/healthplace

Social contacts as a possible mechanism behind the relation between green space and health

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ABSTRACT

ARTICLE INFO

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This study explored whether social contacts are an underlying mechanism behind the relationship between green space and health. We measured social contacts and health in 10,089 residents of the Netherlands and calculated the percentage of green within 1 and a 3 km radius around the postal code coordinates for each individual's address. After adjustment for socio-economic and demographic characteristics, less green space in people's living environment coincided with feelings of loneliness and with perceived shortage of social support. Loneliness and perceived shortage of social support partly mediated the relation between green space and health.

Keywords: Green space Health Loneliness

Article history:

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HEALTH & PLACE

Urban Green Spaces & Health: Complex and synergistic effects



Prof Buffoli Maddoalena

SPACES

Z

GRE

URBAN

Urban Green Spaces > DESIGN & Health

All the Health benefits of green areas are closely linked to several aspects:

- Proximity and accessibility of the green area
- Design of the green area (tree species, paths, services and functions, furnishing elements, resilience, aesthetic aspects...)
- Management of green areas (maintenance, organization of events and activities)
- Users' involvement in the design and management phases

11. Key messages



Intervention objectives in case studies:



Figure 1. A causal model of the impacts of urban green spaces on health and well-being

35

Source: developed from A. Roué-Le Gall in Milvoy & Roué-Le Gall (2015), in WHO (2017). Urban green spaces: a brief for action, Copenhagen: WHO - Regional Office for Europe, p.8

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Urban Green Spaces > DESIGN & Health

Urban Green Space and Health: a review of evidence. WHO, 2016

Revisione sistematica di **casi studio** su interventi di spazi verdi Revisione di **valutazione dell'impatto ambientale / valutazione dell'impatto** sulla salute



Urban green spaces and health

A review of evidence



Urban Green Space and Health: Intervention Impacts and Effectiveness. WHO, 2016 Incontro esperti europei su spazio verde e pianificazione urbana (prof M. Buffoli,

Incontro esperti europei su spazio verde e planificazione urbana (prof M. Buffoli, Polimi)



Urban Green Space and Health: Intervention Impacts and Effectiveness

> Report of a meeting Bonn, Germany

20-21 September 2016

WHAT AND HOW?

Urban Green Space Interventions and Health WHO, 2017

Individuazione di quali strategie dell'interventi sul verde hanno sono risultate più efficaci per i benefici ambientali, sanitari ed equità derivanti dagli spazi verdi urbani.



Urban Green Space Interventions and Health







Can we make our cities healthier just improving UGS surface?



"Italian <mark>Urban Green Space Management</mark>" Analysis in the 109 Italian provincial capitals

RESEARCH QUESTION:

Have the systems for the management, protection and planning of green areas been adopted? Are Italian cities getting greener?



Project "Italian Urban Green Space Management"

OBJECTIVE. Assessment of the state of adoption of management, protection and planning systems for urban green areas. Quantitative analysis of 2021 data on 109 Italian provincial capitals and metropolitan cities



green census

Caratteristiche del territorio Mappatura aree verdi e alberi: Dati GIS incentrato sugli elementi da tutelare



green regulation

Norme per la tutela, la salvaguardia, la gestione, la fruizione e la manutenzione del Verde Pubblico e Privato



Strategie per la progettazione e la programmazione futura del Verde Pubblico e di tute le alberature



Project "Italian Urban Green Space Management"



The green considered is all the green present in the urban territory (i.e. private, public, road, parks, etc.) with the exception of the green of agricultural parks.

Some cities such as Milan (yellow line) have an overall green area that is increasing significantly, but if you look at the sqm/inhabitant ratio, this growth is much less evident and the % is very learned the average This is because:

The green area is increasing, but the number of inhabitants is increasing, so even more greenery should be made This graph does not consider domiciled (non-residents) so it is also an underestimate

Main greening strategies of the city of Milano





re-development of ex-railway infrastructures



Urban Green Space will growth

But

How many people will live in Milan in 2030 and how many more residents live there? Will the green areas be equally distributed?

"Accessibility an Availability of Urban Green Space"

RESEARCH QUESTION:

Do Italian cities have a sufficient distribution of green areas? Do residents live close to green areas that are large enough to ensure beneficial health effects (physical, social and psychological)?

Finanziamento FBML: 2019-2020 GRUPPO DI LAVORO Politecnico di Milano (Design &Health LAB) Università vita-salute San Raffaele

Objective: Analysis of green areas in Italian metropolitan cities and evaluation of the level of accessibility by users to green areas significant for health benefits



NOT ALL GREEN AREAS ARE THE SAME FOR HEALTH PURPOSES.

Of all the green areas in Milan (GIS comunedimilano) only the public green areas for public use have been selected, classified as Historic Green, Parks, Equipped Green (parks, gardens, etc.) and Urban Green (selecting only the subcategories relating to gardens, linear parks)



NOT ALL GREEN AREAS HAVE A SUITABLE SIZE TO GUARANTEE HEALTH FUNCTIONS (sport, relaxation and quiet, leisure, immersion in nature...) Only green areas greater than or equal to 15,000 square meters were further selected (WHO data for RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR HEALTH)



Calculation of the population living near green areas VS green areas >15.000 sqm

By combining the calculations carried out with the information relating to the resident population in the various census sections (ISTAT 2011 data) it is possible to quantify the population present in the three buffer zones (250 m - 500 - 750 m)

Next Step: Green SHOULD then also be evaluated qualitatively, not only quantitatively





Milano

	Aree Verdi Originali	22.446.564
Vilano	Aree Verdi Parchi e Giardini	18.816.209
	Aree Verdi Parchi e Giardini> 15000mq	13.451.032





Torino

	Aree Verdi Originali	14.681.336
Torino	Aree Verdi Parchi e Giardini	8.326.102
	Aree Verdi Parchi e Giardini> 15000mq	6.198.486

The percentage of UGS is not enough to guarantee health benefits in a city. You also need to understand the distribution, the accessibility, and the size of each individual area...

and

What about the <u>quality and the design</u> of UGS?



Prof Buffoli Maddoalena

" Evaluaton of UGS in Milan"

RESEARCH QUESTION:

How can we assess the quality of UGS? Are quality green areas in a city equally distributed? How much does size affect the quality of a green area for health purposes and its use?





Quality Evaluation of UGS in Milan

Objective: Analysis of Milan green areas Quality using RECITAL (uRban grEen spaCe qualITy Assessment tool) tool

UGS quality can be defined as the attributes that affect the use and interaction of the population with the UGS, including characteristics (e. g., size or location), features (e.g., facilities or amenities), and fitness for purpose (e.g., maintenance or condition) (Gidlow et al., 2018).

RECITAL (uRban grEen spaCe qualITy Assessment tool) aims to encompass all potentially relevant quality aspects to be useful when analyzing associations between urban green spaces and human health, both if they are well known or have little supporting evidence.

The TOOL

- 90 quality indicators,
- organized into 11 thematic quality dimensions: (Surroundings, Access, Facilities, Amenities, Aesthetics and Attractions, Incivilities, Safety, Potential usage, Land Covers, Animal biodiversity, and Birds biodiversity)
- The tool is very flexible and can be adapted to the conditions of the environment
- For the Milan analysis, the quality dimensions have been merged into 6 macro-areas



Quality Evaluation of UGS in Milan

Qualitative evaluation of some Urban Green Spaces through the RECITAL tool Selection of at least 2-3 parks for each municipality with widespread coverage on the territory and comparison with economic and domestic parameters.

Milano's map and selected UGS case studies



Quality Evaluation of UGS in Milan



Scoring method

Scoring methods	Scores				
	0	1	2	3	4
Quantity	No presence	Almost no presence	Present in some areas	Mostly present	Always present
Quality	No presence	Poorly maintained and aestheticallyunpleasant	Poorly maintained or aestheticallyunpleasant	Well maintained and aestheticallypleasant	Exceptionally maintained and aestheticallypleasing
Combined quantity and quality	Not present	Not fit for purpose	Fitbut need repairor insuf fi cient amount	Fitand suf fi cient.	Fit,suf fi cient,and aestheticallypleasing.
Reversed quantity	Always present	Mostly present	Present in some areas	Almost no presence	No presence
Potential use	Activitycompletely impossible	Activity possible but with many limitations	Activity possible with some limitations	Good conditions for the activity.	Perfect conditions for the activity.
Braun-Blanquet	5 % or lesscover	5 % to 25 % cover	25 % to 50 % cover	50 % to 75 % cover	75 % or more cover

	Surroundings	Characteristics of the	Surrounding buildings	Quality	
		and the second second	Connection to the site Space entries Fences	Quality Combined Combined	
			Playgrounds	Combined	
			Grass pitches	Combined	
		Presence and quality of	Dog playing grounds	Combined	
	Facilities	features that allow for the realizationof specific	Skateboard/BMX ramps Open space for multichoice usage	Combined Combined	
		accivities.	Nater-related facilities	Combined	
			Outdoor gym	Combined	
			Seating and benches Litterdisposal	Combined Combined	
			Informational	Combined	
		Presence and quality	Picnic tables	Combined	
	Amenities	features that make the UGS more comfortabled	Drinking fountains Public toilets	Combined Combined	
		convenient, or enjoyable	Shelter Shada	Quantity	
		enjoyaare.	Dog excrement bins	Combined	
			Specific sports amenities Barbeques	Combined	
			Cafe/Kiosk Bike packing	Combined	
			Vegetable garden	Combined	
			Aromatics garden Views	Combined Combined	
-	Diwension	Dimension description	Item Typ	e of scoring	-
-			Primary surface	Quality	-
			Material of primary surf Seasonal and high maint	ace Quality Quality	
	Aesthetics and	Measures of beauty and	Year-round vegetation	Quality	
	Attractions	attractiveness.	Water fountain Public art	Combined	
			Historic structures	Conbined	
			or buildings Public attractions	Conbined	
		Measures of land covers.	Grass	Braun-Blanquet	
	Land Covers		Soft soilcover	Braun-Blanguet	
			similar) Tough soilcover (paved or similar)	Braun-Blanquet	1
			Rhopalocera	Quantity	
			Blattodea	Quantity	
	Animal biodiversity	Measures of animal diversity.	Chiroptera	Quantity	
			Other mammals Reptilesand amphibians	Quantity Quantity	
			Charadriiformes	Quantity	
	Birds	Measures of bird	Falconiformes	Quantity	
	biodiversity	diversity.	Psittaciformes	Quantity	
			Pisciformes	Quantity Quantity	
			Paseriformes Ciconiformes	Quantity Quantity	
			Walking paths	Combined	
		Measures of accessibility	Bike lanes	Combined	
	Access	to the site.	Car parking spaces Guiding signage	Quantity Quantity	
			Handicapped adaptation Slope	us Combined Quantity	
	Dimension	Dimension description	Iten Tj	pe of scoring	
			Course) 1/4mg -		
	Incivilities	Elements or characteristicsthat make	Alcohol use Rev	ersed quantity	
		the UGS lessenjoyable.	Other drugs Rev Sex work Pro-	ersed quantity	
			Vandalism Rev	ersed quantity	
			Noise Rev Smells Rev	ersed quantity ersed quantity	
			Lighting	Combined	
			Visibilit@rom	Quality	
			Visibilifjorm		
	Safety	Elements or characteristicsthat make	surrounding buildings Cars safety	Quality Quantity	
		UGS feelsafe.	Safety from bikes	Quantity	
				(unit)	
			Sports in courts	Potentialuse	
			Informal games	101010101000	
			Informal games Nalking or running Children 's nlay	Potentialuse	
			Informal games Nalking or running Children's play Conservation or	Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse	
		Manager of the last	Informal games Walking or running Children's play Conservation or biodiversity	Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse	
	Potential usage	Measures of suitability for differentactivities.	Informal games Walking or running Children's play Conservation or biodiversity Enjoy landscape Dog walking	Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse	
	Potential usage	Measures of suitability for differentactivities.	Informal games Nalking or running Children's play Conservation or biodiversity Enjoy landscape Dog walking Social activities Relaxing	Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse	
	Potential usage	Measures of suitability for differentactivities.	Informal games Walking or running Children's play Conservation or biodiversity Enjoy landscape Dog walking Social activities @elaxing Cycling Water sport	Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse	
	Potential usage	Measures of suitability for different activities.	Informal games Malking or running Children Splay Conservation or biodiversity Enjoy Landscape Dog walking Social activities Relaxing Cycling Vator sports Fishing	Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse Potentialuse	0
Di	Potential usage	Measures of suitability for different activities.	Informal games Naiking or numing Children's play Conservation or biodiversity Enjoy Landscace Dag valking Social activities Pelaxing Vater sports Homo Testing Cyaling Social Activities Pelaxing Social Activities Pelaxing Social Activities Social Activities Pelaxing Social Activities Social Activities Pelaxing Social Activities Social	Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Botanti aluse Bran C ante Bran C ante	е
Di	Mens	Measures of suitability for different activities.	Informal games Nations or nummer Conservation or biodiversity Enjoy Landscare Day valime Social activities Pelaxing Vator sports Flohing The Persons Social Activities Pelaxing Vator sports Flohing Cycling Vator sports	Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Potenti aluse Bran el Potenti aluse Bran el Potenti aluse Bran el Potenti aluse	е

RESEARCH Lab Design & Health



Quality Evaluation of UGS in Milan

Comparison with UGS surface / extension





9000 €/m2



300

"New green infrastructure in Milan Survey on use"

RESEARCH QUESTION:

How much do the uses of public space change with the opening of a new green infrastructure? What are the most popular and used areas?

Prof. MADDALENA BUFFOLI Design &Health Lab, Dipartimento ABC Politecnico di Milano maddalena.buffoli@polimi.it Regeneration project: Viale Argonne-Corso Plebisciti e Corso Indipendenza 2023 con la realizzazione della MM4

1

P ...

TOP NO

MILLEIMI

IL MENTERS AND



"New green infrastructure in Milan - Survey on use"

Type of use (sport, leisure, passage)

Level of pleasantness of the spaces

Busy areas

Survey of changes in use in the population following the opening of a new green infrastructure: In particular, the questionnaire investigated the following aspects: Frequency

It's a neighborhood park

81.6% reach the park on foot 14.8% reach the park by bike



The **72.4%** increased their time spent



63,8% asks for more trees

CONCLUSION

UGS have Positive impacts on physical and mental health, wellbeing, social cohesion, physical activity, environmental sustainability and climate change and much more...

if nature was a pill, it would be the most prescribed medicine

It is our responsibility to make sure that it's well design, Managed, and available locally for all

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13TH WORLD CONGRESS & EXHIBITION REVITALIZING HEALTH BY SALUTOGENIC DESIGN Healthy environment | Healthy people

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