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ANNOYANCE AND HEALTH AROUND SCHIPHOL AIRPORT AND IN A CONTROL AREA

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ABSTRACT

In 1996 a questionnaire-based survey was carried out around Schiphol airport as part of the research programme "Health Impact Assessment Schiphol Airport (GES)". In the same period the Community Health Service in the Northwest part of the Netherlands conducted a survey, making use of the same questionnaire. This area is free from airport noise caused by Schiphol airport, and as such is suitable as a control area for the Schiphol study.

Based on these two studies levels of annoyance and health indicators are compared in three exposure-categories:

- A high exposed area around Schiphol airport with noise-exposure.
- A low exposed area around Schiphol airport.
- A control area with no Schiphol related aircraft noise.

Previous analyses of the Schiphol data were restricted to effects of aircraft noise within a radius of 25 km around the airport. The results showed that even in areas with a low aircraft noise exposure, people are annoyed and report health effects. It is interesting to study whether also in a control area these effects occur. The hypothesis is that prevalence of annoyance and health aspects in the low exposed area around Schiphol are equal to those in the control area.

Note: for more information about this work, please contact the authors.