Manganese in toenails is associated with hearing loss at high frequencies in humans

Nobutaka Ohgami^{1,2}, Xiang Li¹, Ichiro Yajima^{1,2}, Reina Oshino^{1,2}, Kyoko Ohgami^{1,2}, Yoko Kato^{1,2}, Nazmul Ahsan^{2,3}, Anwarul Azim Akhand^{2,3} and Masashi Kato^{1,2,*}

Author Affiliation:

¹Department of Occupational and Environmental Health, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya, Japan.

²Voluntary Body for International Health Care in Universities, Nagoya, Japan.

³Department of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, University of Dhaka, Dhaka-1000,

Bangladesh.

*Correspondence:

Masashi Kato M.D., Ph.D. Department of Occupational and Environmental Health, Nagoya University Graduate School of Medicine Address: 65 Tsurumai-cho, Showa-ku, Nagoya, Aichi 466-8550, Japan. Phone: +81-52-744-2122. Fax: +81-52-744-2124. E-mail: katomasa@med.nagoya-u.ac.jp

Supplementary information

Figure legend

Fig. S1. Correlations among history of drinking well water, Mn levels in toenails, hair and urine, and hearing levels evaluated by PTA in humans (n = 145). (*A-D*) Scatter plots of hearing levels (dB SPL) at 1, 4, 8 and 12 kHz on the Y-axis and duration of drinking well water (years) on the X-axis are presented. (*E-G*) Scatter plots of Mn levels (μ g/g) in toenails on the Y-axis and duration of drinking well water (years) on the X-axis are presented. Spearman's correlation coefficients are also shown.

