For the Bern Infant Lung Development Cohort (BILD) study, pregnant mothers were recruited at maternity hospitals and practices of obstetricians in the agglomeration of Bern through advertisements and interviews. Exclusion criteria for the study were ethnicity other than Caucasian, preterm delivery (< 37 weeks), major birth defects, disease or a later diagnosis of airway malformation or specific chronic respiratory disease [9]. Assessed risk factors included time-invariant factors like sex, maternal atopic disease (maternal asthma, hay fever, or eczema), presence of older siblings, pre- and postnatal smoke or pet exposure, and level of parental education (higher: couples with a higher than average education, i.e. 4 years apprenticeship). We performed lung function measurements including tidal breathing, multiple breath washout and exhaled nitric oxide (eNO) at the age of 4-5 weeks during quiet, un-sedated sleep, as reported previously [15]. Groups were defined based on mean lung function values and categorized into low and high (below/above mean) lung function parameters. Time-variant factors included age, breastfeeding (“current” [yes/no] at time of swab), months of the year, and nursery care (“current” [yes/no] at time of swab). Further, we obtained daily meteorological data assessed during the entire study period from MeteoSwiss, station Bern, e.g. outdoor air temperature (daily mean in °C), and humidity (daily mean in % relative humidity) at the swab sampling day.