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The air we breathe: a study into the impact of historical socioeconomic changes on the respiratory health of past Dutch populations (ca. 470-1850 CE)

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Curriculum Vitae

Maia Casna was born on 10 August 1994 in Rovereto, Italy, at the edge of the Dolomites mountain range. Her research centers on the analysis of archaeological human skeletal remains to investigate aspects of daily life and disease, particularly in relation to historical urbanization processes.

Maia began her academic journey by obtaining a Bachelor's degree in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Bologna in 2017. She continued her studies at Leiden University, earning a Master's degree in Archaeological Science, *cum laude*, in 2019. Her Master's thesis focused on chronic maxillary sinusitis in two post-medieval populations from the Netherlands. In 2021, Maia was awarded the "PhD in the Humanities" grant offered by the Dutch Research Council (NWO) to advance her research on the impact of socioeconomic changes on the respiratory health of medieval and post-medieval Dutch populations, with findings presented in this dissertation.

Maia has authored and co-authored several peer-reviewed articles in leading scientific journals, contributing to the field of paleopathology with a particular emphasis on respiratory diseases. Her publications include studies on the application of computed tomography to investigate sinusitis in skeletal remains, as well as research into the physiological response to infection of the middle ear canal. In addition to NWO, her work has received financial support from the British Association for Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology (BABAO), the Stichting ter Financiering van Barge's Anthropologica, and the Stichting Nederlandse Museum voor Anthropologie en Praehistorie (SNMAP).

Maia has extensive fieldwork and laboratory experience. She has worked as an osteoarchaeologist in projects across Italy, Jordan, and the Netherlands, and has been a visiting researcher at the University of Salento (Italy), the University of Leicester (United Kingdom), and at Purdue University (United States of America). Throughout her career, Maia has received recognition for her work in the form of numerous awards, including the Incentive Prize from the Nederlandse Vereniging voor Fysische Anthropologie (NVFA) and an honorary mention for the Early Career Achievement Prize from the Oscar Montelius Foundation, awarded by the European Association of Archaeologists (EAA).