



Building Momentum for Climate Solutions

How Health Professionals can Lead

August 9, 2018

#ClimateChangesHealth

#GCAS2018

1. The Global Climate Action Summit

Sarah Spengeman, PhD, Associate Director, U.S. Climate and Health

2. Why Climate Action *NOW*

Gary Cohen, President and Cofounder, Health Care Without Harm

3. The Health Care Climate Challenge

Lauren Koch, MA, MENR, Associate Director, U.S. Climate and Health

4. How Physicians can Lead

Amy Collins, MD, Senior Clinical Advisor for Physician Engagement, Health Care Without Harm

5. How Nurses can Lead

Shanda Demorest, DNP, RN-BC, PHN, clinical assistant professor at University of Minnesota School of Nursing

6. Simple Advocacy Actions for Health Professionals

Sarah Spengeman, PhD, Associate Director, U.S. Climate and Health

Health Without Harm

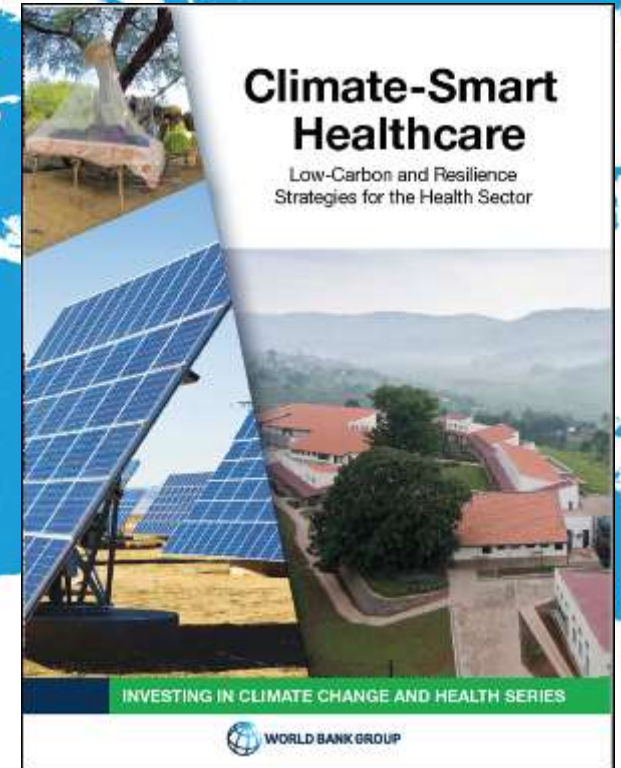
1996

Health Care Without Harm works to transform health care worldwide so that it reduces its environmental footprint, becomes a community anchor for sustainability and becomes a leader in the global movement for environmental health and justice.

32,000

Our reach includes 32,000 hospitals and health centers in 52 countries worldwide.

HEALTH CARE WITHOUT HARM



GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT

September 12-14, 2018
San Francisco, CA

HEALTHY
ENERGY
SYSTEMS

INCLUSIVE
ECONOMIC
GROWTH

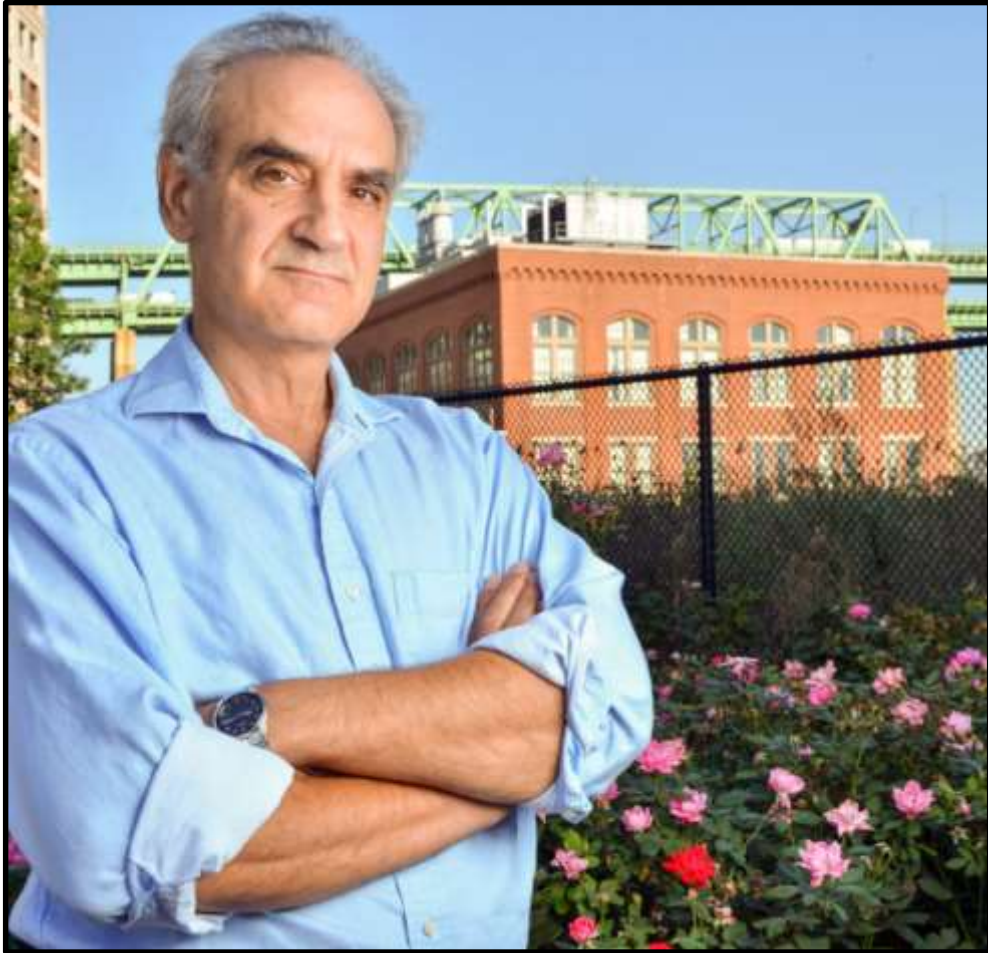
SUSTAINABLE
COMMUNITIES

LAND AND OCEAN
STEWARDSHIP

TRANSFORMATIVE
CLIMATE
INVESTMENTS

GLOBAL CLIMATE AND HEALTH FORUM

September 12, 2018
San Francisco, CA
Event will be livestreamed



Gary Cohen
President and Cofounder
Health Care Without Harm
Practice Greenhealth



California fire explodes in size, is now largest in state history



By [Madison Park](#), CNN

🕒 Updated 7:50 AM ET, Tue August 7, 2018



Tick and Mosquito Infections Spreading Rapidly, C.D.C. Finds

Top News in Nursing



Will climate change increase suicide rates?

Healthline/Medical News Today | July 30, 2018

Global warming seems set to impact almost every facet of our lives. A new study predicts that it might also increase suicide rates in the United States and Mexico.



More Americans are living in wooded suburbs near deer, which carry the ticks that spread Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, babesiosis, rabbit fever and Powassan virus. Scott Camazine/Science Source

Record-breaking summer marches on to the beat of climate change



By Brandon Nifler, CNN
Updated 5:00 AM ET, Tue July 24, 2018



New Stanford research shows that higher temperatures increase suicide rates in the United States and Mexico. (Image credit: iStockphoto/beer5020)





Become a climate
health champion!





OPPORTUNITIES

Global Climate Action Summit 2018: Take Ambition to the Next Level

By Kima Mayes - August 2, 2018  0



The Health Care Climate Challenge

Lauren Koch, MA, MENR

Associate Director, Climate and Health

@LaurenKoch22



The Health Care Climate Challenge mobilizes health care institutions around the world to protect public health from climate change.

Climate-Smart Health Care

Mitigation – Reduce health care’s own carbon footprint.

Resilience – Prepare for the impacts of extreme weather and the shifting burden of disease.

Leadership – Educate staff and the public about climate and health and promote policies to protect public health from climate change.



Hospital climate action is urgent

CNN U.S. • FEMA admits it was understaffed and underprepared for 2017 hurricanes

FEMA admits it was understaffed and underprepared for 2017 hurricanes

By [Madison Park](#) and [Emanuella Grinberg](#), CNN
Updated 7:56 AM ET, Fri July 13, 2018



More from CNN

- Greg Olsen on Kelvin Benjamin Criticizing Cam Newton: 'It's Kind...
- Madden 19: Release Date, Top Player Ratings, New Features...

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Take your commitment to the next level!



RE



Health professionals play a critical role

Why physicians are on the front lines of climate change care

David Wigder

Friday, March 25, 2016 - 12:33am



As public health risks such as asthma and heat stroke increase, the position of prescribing climate action.



[Top News](#)

[Journal Summaries](#)

[Resource Centers](#)

[Conferences](#)

Top News in Nursing



Will climate change increase suicide rates?

Healthline/Medical News Today | July 30, 2018

Global warming seems set to impact almost every facet of our lives. A new study predicts that it might also increase suicide rates in the United States and Mexico.

Climate Challenge Resources



Information packet: More about the challenge and how your organization can participate

Talking points: Guidance for presenting the Climate Challenge to your organization's leadership

Email template from *an individual to hospital*: An easy way to ask your hospital to join the challenge

Email template from *hospital staff to leadership*: Easily make the case to your leadership

noharm.org/healthcareclimatechallenge

Ready to sign up?



Hospitals, health systems, and health care facilities are invited to **sign the Health Care Climate Challenge pledge** and join the climate-smart health care movement.

It's easy to get started:

1. Sign the pledge to join the challenge.
2. Access our resources to move toward climate-smart health care.
3. Report your data and progress.

Join the Climate Challenge

noharm.org/healthcareclimatechallenge



Questions:
Lauren Koch
lkoch@hcwh.org

noharm.org/healthcareclimatechallenge

@LaurenKoch22



HCWH - US & Canada @HCWithoutHarm · 19m



TODAY: 19 American [#healthcare](#) systems committed to meet the goals of the Paris Agreement by joining the "We Are Still In" coalition. With health care being America's largest employer, this commitment makes quite the statement.

[#GCAS2018](#) [#WeAreStillin](#): noharm-uscanada.org/articles/news/...

763 hospitals
784,778 employees
\$167.2 billion in revenue

WE ARE STILL IN

Dignity Health, Kaiser Permanente, BostonMedicalCenter and 7 others





Climate Change and Health: The Role of Physicians

Amy Collins M.D.

Senior Clinical Advisor for Physician Engagement

@DrAmy_Collins

Why should physicians CARE about climate change?



"Climate change is the biggest global health threat of the 21st century...the impacts will be felt all around the world — and not just in some distant future but in our lifetimes and those of our children."

The Lancet, 2009

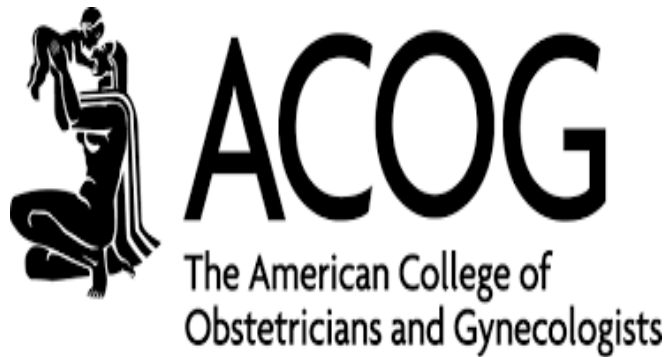
Why should physicians **ADVOCATE** for climate-smart health care and climate solutions?



First, Do No Harm

- Patient health
- Employee health
- Public health
- Environmental health





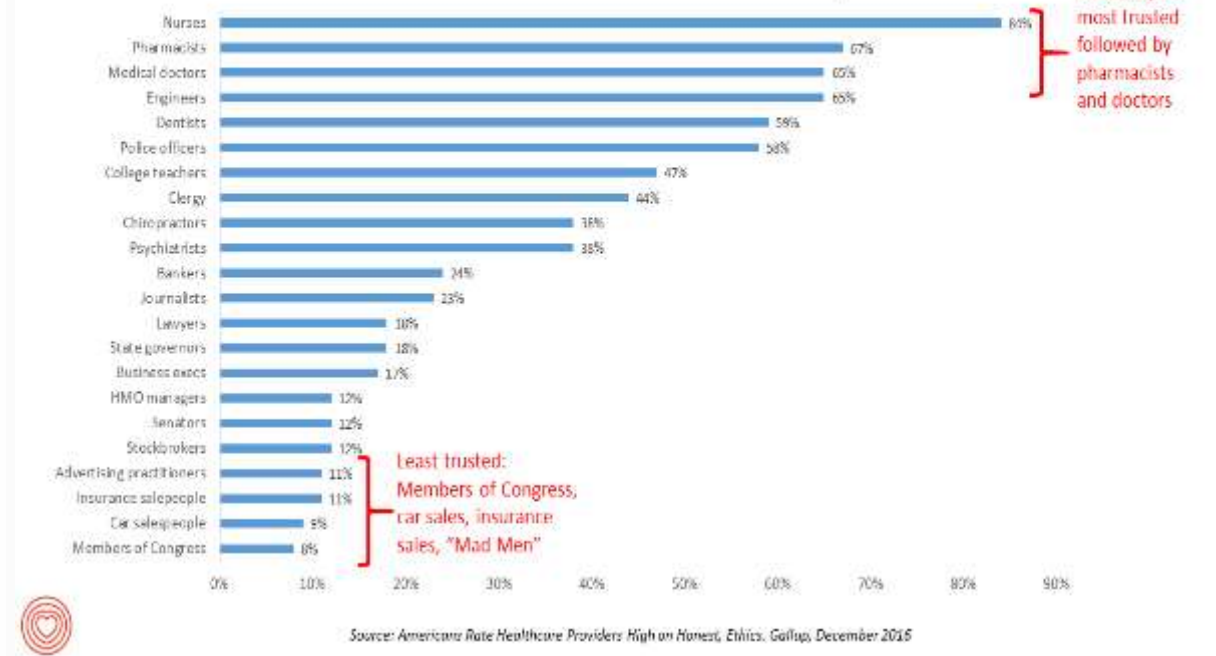
American Academy
of Pediatrics



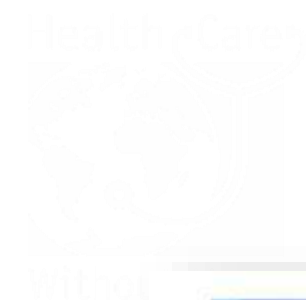
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

“The mission of the Consortium is to **organize, empower and amplify the voice of America’s doctors** to convey how climate change is harming our health and how climate solutions will improve it.”

Nurses, Pharmacists and Doctors Rank Highest on Honest and Ethics in US Professions, 2016



Are physicians
obliged to lead
sustainability efforts
in health care
organizations?



AMA Journal of Ethics[®]
Illuminating the art of medicine

“Physicians and health organizations have obligations to use their **influence, expertise, and resources** to protect health, which includes promoting sustainability”



Physician Advocacy

- Health sector
- Public Policy
- Media
- Research
- Education
- Clinical Practice



Clinical Champions



Research

PLOS ONE

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Environmental Impacts of the U.S. Health Care System and Effects on Public Health

Matthew J. Eckelman^{1*}, Jodi Sherman²

¹ Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts, United States of America, ² Department of Anesthesiology, Yale School of Medicine, New Haven, Connecticut, United States of America

* m.eckelman@neu.edu

Abstract

The U.S. health care sector is highly interconnected with the nation's pollution to air, water, and soils. A significant portion of the pollution is attributable to the health care sector, and potential environmental and public health outcomes. We performed a life cycle assessment (LCA) modeling the decade 2003–2013 and compared to national emissions. The health care sector is also responsible for significant fractions of national

< Previous Abstract | Next Abstract >

Life Cycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Anesthetic Drugs

Sherman, Jodi MD¹; Le, Cathy¹; Lamers, Vanessa^{1,2}; Eckelman, Matthew PhD¹

Anesthesia & Analgesia: May 2012 · Volume 114 · Issue 5 · p 1066–1090

doi: 10.1213/ANE.0b013e31824f6940

General Articles: Research Reports

FREE

SDG

Abstract

In Brief

Author Information

BACKGROUND: Anesthesiologists must consider the entire life cycle of drugs in order to include environmental impacts into clinical decisions. In the present study we used life cycle assessment to examine the climate change impacts of 5 anesthetic drugs: sevoflurane, desflurane, isoflurane, nitrous oxide, and propofol.

METHODS: A full cradle-to-grave approach was used, encompassing resource extraction, drug manufacturing, transport to health care facilities, drug delivery to the patient, and disposal or emission to the environment. At each stage of the life cycle, energy, material inputs, and emissions were considered, as well as use-specific impacts of each drug. The 4 inhalation anesthetics are greenhouse gases (GHGs), and so life cycle GHG emissions include waste anesthetic gases vented to the atmosphere and emissions (largely carbon dioxide) that arise from other life cycle stages.

RESULTS: Desflurane accounts for the largest life cycle GHG impact among the anesthetic drugs considered. Desflurane has 20 times the impact of isoflurane and 20 times that of sevoflurane on a per MAC-hour basis when administered in pure. GHG emissions increase significantly for all drugs when administered in an N₂O/O₂ mixture. For all of the inhalation anesthetics, GHG impacts are dominated by uncontrolled emissions of waste anesthetic gases. GHG impacts of propofol are comparatively quite small, nearly 4 orders of magnitude lower than those of sevoflurane or nitrous oxide. Unlike the inhaled drugs, the GHG impacts of propofol primarily stem from the energy required for the syringe pump and not from drug production or direct release to the atmosphere.

Our results reiterate previous published data on the GHG effects of these inhaled drugs, while providing a new life cycle context. There are several practical environmental impact mitigation strategies. Desflurane should be restricted to cases where they may reduce morbidity and mortality over alternative agents. Desflurane should avoid unnecessarily high fresh gas flow rates for all inhaled drugs. There are waste



Education












HEALTH CARE WITHOUT HARM

Webinar series

CLIMATE AND HEALTH, AN EMERGENCY MEDICINE PERSPECTIVE

In this 3-part webinar series, emergency medicine experts will explore the health impacts of climate change and opportunities to advance solutions that address human health and our health system.

	<p>Part one PHYSICIAN CLIMATE LEADERSHIP Sept. 20 1 p.m. ET</p>
	<p>Part two PREPARING FOR CLIMATE EMERGENCIES Oct. 30 1 p.m. ET</p>
	<p>Part three DELIVERING CLIMATE-SMART HEALTH CARE Nov. 15 1 p.m. ET</p>

CLIMATE & HEALTH SCIENCE POLICY FELLOWSHIP

Media

VALLEY VOICES

Is climate change among the villains behind our weird weather?

BY DON GAEDE AND CONNIE YOUNG

October 02, 2017 01:08 AM
Updated October 02, 2017 01:08 AM

We would like thank The Bee and other forms of media for their ongoing coverage of the wildfires raging in the West and the multiple hurricanes with unprecedented severity. This important service is much appreciated by all Americans as we await news of family and friends in the affected areas.

69°

THE ROANOKE TIMES

roanoke.com

News Sports Business Weather Life & Entertainment Opinion In depth Customer Care Obituaries Jobs Classifieds findit

RATES FROM \$109*

Next Up: Foster: Growl trucks on I-81 to rail
By David Porter

Rafiq: Clean power repeal threatens Virginia health

Mix Rafiq Rafiq is an internist in Falls Church and an Assistant Professor at George Washington University and Georgetown University and a member of Virginia Clinicians for Climate Action.
Dec 11, 2017 · 12

Cartoon of the day

Climate disruption has real impact on health in Massachusetts and we should be doing more (Viewpoint)

Updated May 18, 2018; Posted May 18, 2018

60 205 shares

By [Guest Viewpoint](#)

By [John Messervy](#) and [Dr. Regina LaRocque](#)

Climate disruption poses one of the greatest health risks of our time. As an institution committed to the health and wellness of our community, we believe that by tackling climate change, we have an opportunity to improve health outcomes, save money, and invest in a clean energy future.

Public health and clean energy go hand in hand, so it is fitting that Massachusetts is a longtime leader in both healthcare and clean energy investment. The commonwealth is known around the globe as a premiere healthcare destination, and our state leaders were early actors in passing bold policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Physicians, climate and public policy



HEALTH CARE WITHOUT HARM



Photo: Ravanesi©2017

“Transitioning our state quickly away from fossil fuels and toward renewable energy sources will not only help combat climate change, but it will also have immediate benefits in improving the quality of our air and our health.”

State Clinician Climate Action Groups



Social Media

 **Renee N Salas, MD, MPH** @ReneeNSalas_MD · Apr 20
Does the public know that climate change is harming health? "Few know, but they are inclined to accept." When asked what the health impacts are, 57% didn't respond/didn't know. This means there are public education opportunities. @MaibachEd at #BUSPHSymposia #Climatechangeahealth



Initiative on Cities, InnovateBU, sustainability@BU and 7 others

3 35 58

Physicians for a Sustainable Future
Closed Group

About
Discussion
Members
Events
Videos
Photos
Files
Group Insights
Moderate Group



Joined + Notifications Share More

Search this group

Write Post Add Photo/Video Live Video More

Hi, Amy. Write something here...

Photo/Video Get Together Watch Party

ADD MEMBERS Embed Invite

MEMBERS 605 Members

DESCRIPTION Edit

 **Amy Collins** @DrAmy_Collins · Jul 8
What if hospital food could be plant based, climate friendly, healthy & delicious? Learn how with @HCWithoutHarm



What if The Food Served at Hospitals Actually Supported Health and Healing?

Could the Future of Hospital Food Be Healthy, Plant-Based, and Delic...
Wonder why hospital food is so bad? Could the future of hospital food actually be good for you and taste good, too?
foodrevolution.org

 **Aparna Bole** @DrAparnaBole · Jul 25
Pediatricians agree: when we #ActOnClimate we protect the health of children today & in the future. #putkids1st #climatechangeshealth #Tweetiaticians

Amer Acad Pediatrics @AmerAcadPeds
Climate change poses threats to the health, safety, and security, of all children. Pediatricians have a valuable role to play in the climate and health movement. Learn more about why AAP is leading on climate change and how pediatricians can help. vimeo.com/280803570

6 11



Three actions you can take TODAY

Join the Health Care Without Harm Physician Network

- A network of physicians interested in promoting climate-smart health care through mitigation, resilience and leadership
- To lead and support physician action to reduce the environmental impact of health care delivery



noharm.org/physiciannetwork

Use our NEW factsheet to educate your colleagues

Climate change, health, and health care
How physicians can help



Climate change leads to worsening air quality, extreme impacts on food and water supply and quality, and more frequent and extreme weather events, which all have serious impacts on human health.

Health impacts

Climate change will have significant impacts on our health. Numerous medical professionals are already providing education and support to their patients on how to adapt to these changes. We can help our patients by providing guidance on the health care they can take to reduce the impact of climate change on their health.

Key actions to reduce the health burden of climate change include:

- Increased vigilance of vulnerable patients
- Patient education to reduce medical waste
- Environmental changes
- Climate change and global health
- Health care and climate justice

With these goals, we can work together to reduce the impact of climate change on our health and the health of our patients. Let's work together to reduce the impact of climate change on our health and the health of our patients.



The infographic shows various health impacts of climate change, including:

- Heat stress and dehydration
- Respiratory illness
- Cardiovascular disease
- Food and water insecurity
- Displacement and migration
- Mental health
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Vector-borne diseases
- Zoonotic diseases
- Emerging infectious diseases
- Antibiotic resistance
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Antimicrobial resistance
- Antimicrobial resistance

Scientists already have shown clear evidence that our planet is not facing just an environmental crisis associated with climate change. It is a crisis that is a direct threat to our health, our safety, and our future. It is a crisis that we must act on immediately and collectively to protect our health and the health of our patients.

Dr. Sara Hines, Director of Public Health, American Medical Association

Climate change and a changing health care delivery system

Climate change is a global health care delivery system. It is a system that is changing rapidly and has the potential to impact our health and the health of our patients. We must act now to reduce the impact of climate change on our health and the health of our patients.

Physicians' response

Physicians are leading the way in addressing climate change. They are providing education and support to their patients on how to adapt to these changes. They are also working to reduce the impact of climate change on our health and the health of our patients.

Physicians' response

Physicians are leading the way in addressing climate change. They are providing education and support to their patients on how to adapt to these changes. They are also working to reduce the impact of climate change on our health and the health of our patients.

Climate-smart health care

Climate-smart health care is a health care system that is designed to reduce the impact of climate change on our health and the health of our patients. It is a system that is changing rapidly and has the potential to impact our health and the health of our patients.

Join the movement by signing up for the Health Care Without Harm Physician Network today.

Join Hospital Green Team or State Clinician Advocacy Group





Questions:
Amy Collins
acollins@hcwh.org

noharm.org/physiciannetwork

[@DrAmy_Collins](https://twitter.com/DrAmy_Collins)



Nurses Climate Challenge

Shanda Demorest, DNP, RN-BC, PHN

Project Coordinator, Nurses Climate Challenge

@ShandaDemorest

“Climate change is a nursing issue.”

“Nursing is the most honest and ethical profession.”

“Yet nurses don’t seem to be engaged.”



Nurses Climate Challenge

The nation's first campaign to engage 5,000 health professionals around climate change and health

A collaboration between Health Care Without Harm & Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments

Goals of the Nurses Climate Challenge

- Educate **5,000 health professionals** on climate change and health
- **Build a cohort** of informed and more-engaged health professionals in care settings
- **Launch a movement** of health professionals committed to climate solutions at home and in care settings



As of this month!

202 Nurse Climate Champions!

5 continents!

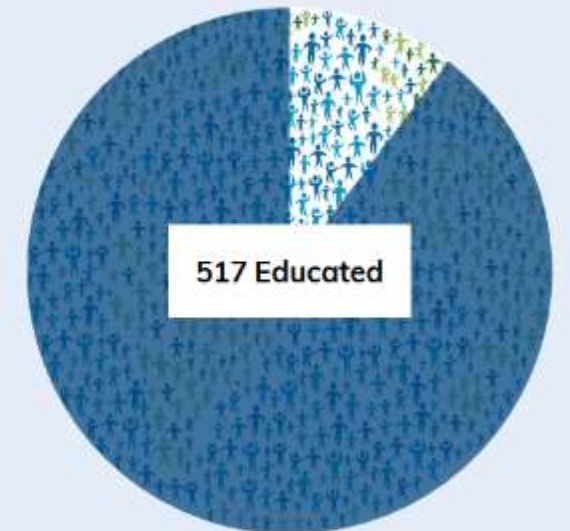
**517 health professionals
educated!**

Connect with Nurse Climate Champions



Nurses Climate Challenge Tracker

We are educating
5,000
health professionals on
climate and health



It's EASY!

www.nursesclimatechallenge.org

It's easy to get started:

1. Register to become a Nurse Climate Champion.
2. Access our comprehensive set of resources.
3. Start educating your colleagues and report your progress.


[Learn more](#)

- or -

[Become a Nurse Climate Champion](#)

The Toolkit

1. How-to/timeline
2. Leadership buy-in letter
3. Advertising posters
4. Tips for talking about climate change
5. PPT presentations: Short (8 slides) & long (13 slides)
6. How health professionals can take action at work & home
7. Optional feedback survey
8. Climate Changes Health waiting room posters



NCC
Nurses' Climate Challenge

Climate change is a serious threat to the health of our patients and communities.

The health effects of climate change include increased respiratory and cardiovascular disease, injuries and early deaths from extreme weather events, food- and water-borne illnesses, the spread of infectious diseases, and mental illness.

HEALTH PROFESSIONALS HAVE A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO USE THEIR TRUSTED VOICE TO PROMOTE HEALTH BOTH IN THE HOSPITAL AND BEYOND BY WORKING ON CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS.



Your nursing colleague, (ADD NAME), has joined the Nurses Climate Challenge, a national campaign to educate 3,000 health professionals about the health effects of climate change.

Come learn about how climate change affects patient health and how you can make a difference.

DATE: TIME: LOCATION:

Become a Nurse Climate Champion! Email nursesclimatechallenge@hcwh.org to sign up today!

This campaign is proudly sponsored by:



Steps and timeline

This graphic provides a clear outline and suggested timeline for planning, promoting, and hosting successful events.

[Download](#) 

Sample email for engaging leadership

Use this sample language to gain leadership support for your event.

[Download](#) 

Customizable poster to promote your event

Edit this poster to promote your educational event.

[Download](#) 

Short presentation on health impacts of climate change

This 10-minute PowerPoint with talking points allows you to provide essential information on climate and health in a timeframe that easily fits as an agenda item for a staff meeting.

[Download](#) 

Long presentation on health impacts of climate change

This 20- to 30-minute PowerPoint with talking points includes all the essential information, plus additional details about specific health impacts of climate change on health. This version is designed for when you have additional time at a staff meeting or for a unique event dedicated to the topic.

[Download](#) 

Presentation feedback

Use this quick survey to get feedback after your presentations. Share positive results with leadership for continued support for climate education and action.

[Download](#) 

Sticker/Badge Template: "Ask me about climate and health"

Easily identify yourself as a Nurse Climate Champion or share badges with colleagues who attend your event. The sticker or badge is an excellent conversation starter.

Use Avery Template 5395.

[Download](#) 

Talking tips and strategies for having tough conversations

Use this messaging guide to learn the most effective strategies for talking about climate and health with your colleagues.

[Download](#) 

Guide for taking action in health care settings and at home

Once you've educated your colleagues, you'll want to provide them with opportunities for climate action. Use this guide to provide examples of the many ways health professionals can advance climate solutions.

[Download](#) 

File Home Insert Design Transitions Animations Slide Show Review View Tell me what you want to do

Cut Copy Paste Format Painter New Slide Section Slides

Font Paragraph Drawing Editing

7 Air Pollution

8 Changes in Vector Ecology


9 Severe Weather

10 **Mental Health**

11 Health Professionals' Role in Climate Change

Mental Health

- Depression, anxiety, anger, hopelessness, PTSD, uncertainty – *and the list goes on*
- Familial, financial, and societal impacts are often unquantifiable and difficult to articulate
- Ex) Hurricane Maria: 215,000 Puerto Ricans fled to Florida
- Climate change expected to lead to **200,000,000** more forced migrations by 2050, which contribute to civil conflict



- Physical health impacts of climate change also have implications for mental health (for instance, when individuals struggle with disease related to climate change, when they lose physical infrastructure such as a home or business, etc.)
- **Most vulnerable:** children, the elderly, pregnant women, people with pre-existing mental health conditions, those in poverty, homeless, first responders
- U.N. International Organization for Migration estimates an additional 200 MILLION migrants by mid-century. This applies to the United States as well. For instance, **"215,000 Puerto Ricans have arrived in Florida since Hurricane Maria."** See article titled **"America's first climate change refugees try to save their town"** for a story that outlines the first government-financed community resettlement. **Another article by Strauss, Kulp, and Levermann** outlines how citizens in over 400 cities and towns in the US will be relocated due to climate change.
- International example) Syrian drought → forced migration to urban areas → larger populations living in cities causes resource strain → civil unrest → refugees
- Health professionals will also feel the impacts:
 - Forefront of emergent care (crisis response)
 - Migration leads to changing patient population with more complex health needs (language, insurance, health histories, trauma, etc.)
 - Limited resources with greater patient needs
- See this resources titled **"Mental Health and Our Changing Climate: Impacts, Implications, and Guidance"**



- There are many, many ways that health professionals can reduce their impact on the climate at work and at home. These are just a few examples.
- Ideas for climate action are highlighted in the green clouds.
- The less fossil fuel energy we use, the better. Ultimately, it comes down to using **less energy** (electricity, heat, cooling, gasoline) and using **fewer material goods**.
- For more ideas on how to reduce your impact at your health care setting, visit the [Health Care Climate Council's Climate Action Playbook](#)
- For more ideas on how to reduce your impact at home, visit [Climate Care's 50 Ways to Shrink Your Footprint](#)
- Most importantly – find others who are doing this work. We can all do more when we work together.
- *If your setting is a member of [Practice Greenhealth](#), include that information here!*

For examples, see short list below. For more details, see "[How Health Professionals Can Take Action at Work and Home](#)" document included in the NCC toolkit.

- Reduce, Reuse, Recycle (Waste): Only bring supplies into patients rooms that are needed, Initiate recycling program, initiate composting program, decrease water use, go paperless, choose reusable supplies, decrease washing of extra linens
- Reduce OR Energy use and waste: HVAC setbacks and lighting sensors, reprocessed devices, hard cases for sterilization, recycle blue wrap
- Choose local/sustainable foods and reduce food waste: Procure local foods, reduce portion size of meat served, replace beef with other proteins, switch to room service, food donation

Nurse Climate Champion Stories

Robbi Hagelberg | Chief Nursing Officer of Lakeview Hospital (Stillwater, MN)

Motivated by vector borne disease and air quality, and water quality

Educated 80 practicing health professionals & leaders



www.nursesclimatechallenge.org

We are educating
5,000
health professionals on
climate and health

[#nursesclimatechallenge](https://twitter.com/nursesclimatechallenge)



Questions:
Shanda Demorest
nursesclimatechallenge@hcwh.org

www.nursesclimatechallenge.org

@ShandaDemorest



Advocacy Tips for Health Professionals

Sarah Spengeman, PhD

Associate Director, Climate and Health

Twitter for advocacy: A how-to guide for the Global Climate Action Summit and beyond

News posted by nknock@hcwh.org on August 6, 2018

US & Canada | Tags: [climate](#)



Use this simple guide to spread the #climatechangeshealth message before and during #GCAS2018 on Twitter.

Letter to the Editor

Start with a “hook” to a recent newsworthy event like GCAS.

Establish your credibility as a health professional.

Dear Editor,

Leaders from across the country are gathering in San Francisco **next/this** week for the Global Climate Action Summit. As a **physician/nurse** who is alarmed by the growing threat climate change poses to the health and wellbeing of my patients, I urge these leaders, including Gov. **<<name of governor>>** to commit to more ambitious action to solve climate change.

The health impacts of climate change are already being felt by millions of Americans. In our own community, a growing number of my patients are suffering from **<<describe specific impacts*>>**.

Talk about LOCAL impacts.

But there is still time to act to avoid the worst health impacts of climate change. Gov. **<<name of governor>>** must join with other world leaders in making a stronger commitment to climate action by pledging to transition **<<name of state>>** away from dirty fossil fuels and to 100 percent clean, renewable energy by 2030. Any further delay will cost lives.

Include a specific call to action and emphasize that a solution is possible.

<<name, title, city, state>>

*Suggested health impacts to consider including depending on your region:

- In the West, communities are suffering from increasing rates of heat-related illnesses; injuries, deaths, and toxic smoke from wildfires; and droughts that threaten food and nutrition.
- In the East and Midwest, changes in temperature have meant a longer tick season, leading to a dramatic increase in cases of Lyme Disease.
- In the South, stronger tropical storms have claimed lives and destroyed homes leading to high rates of depression and anxiety among those impacted.

Show up!



Show up!



Building momentum for climate solutions

News posted by nknoock@hcwh.org on **August 6, 2018**

US & Canada | Tags: [climate](#), [climate action](#)

Leaders around the globe are gearing up to make new commitments at the upcoming [Global Climate Action Summit](#), and there has never been a better time to take your climate commitments to the next level.

Here are five ways to easily get involved:

1. Encourage your hospital or health system to join the [Health Care Climate Challenge](#) today and [We Are Still In](#), and your health system's pledge will be highlighted at our [Global Climate and Health Forum](#), an official affiliate event of the Summit.
2. Are you a doctor or nurse who wants to use your trusted voice to educate your colleagues about the health impacts of climate change? Join our [Physician Network](#) or the [Nurses Climate Challenge](#).
3. Customize our [letter to the editor template](#) to inform your community about climate and health leading up to the Global Climate Action Summit.
4. Use our simple [social media guide](#) to spread the #climatechangeshealth message before and during #GCAS2018.
5. Livestream our [Global Climate and Health Forum](#) on Sept. 12 and join the conversation on social media using #climateandhealthforum.

noharm.org/climatemomentum



Questions:
Sarah Spengeman, PhD
sspengeman@hcwh.org

noharm.org/climatemomentum

[@HCWithoutHarm](https://twitter.com/HCWithoutHarm)