

Climate & Health Grand Rounds Toolkit

This toolkit equips health professionals to integrate climate change into the classic case-based structure of grand rounds, which is to teach prevention, diagnosis, and treatment.

As the greatest health threat – and opportunity – of our time (The *Lancet* Countdown), health professionals must know the impacts of climate change on health. Through grand rounds, health professionals can also educate on the health co-benefits of climate solutions, including their necessity for greater health equity and environmental justice.

Aspects to Consider:

Duration: 60-90 minutes

Target Audiences

- Health professionals
- Health professionals in training

Themes

- Climate Change
- Health Equity
- Social Determinants of Health

Tone

- Professional
- Solutions-oriented

Goals

- Increase knowledge of climate impacts on patient and community health
- Discover solutions and actions that protect health and our climate

Sample Outline

Climate & Health Grand Rounds

10 min Opening

- Speaker introductions
- Overview of objectives and agenda

*Find additional resources at
ClimateRx.org/GrandRounds*

10 min Climate Change Overview

- How our climate is changing
- Fossil fuels & largest contributors to climate change
- Human activity impact on greenhouse gas emissions
- How health facilities contribute to emissions

10 min Climate & Health Impacts

- Individuals and patients: Extreme heat, air quality, weather-related injury, mental health
- Health equity and social determinants

15-30 min Case Examples (Choose 1-2 from each section)

- Individuals and patients
 - Extreme Heat
 - Air Quality
 - Disaster-related disease, injury, care disruption
 - Mental Health
- Health facilities
 - Smart Surfaces
 - CHARGE Partnership
 - Spaulding Rehab Hospital or Brushwood Center

5-10 min Actions & Solutions

- Spectrum of solutions, health co-benefits
- Sustainability in the workplace
- Greening at home & in your neighborhood
- Patients want health professionals to lead on climate
- Climate lens in patient interactions and diagnoses
- ClimateRx + Ambassador Training

5-10 min Advocacy

- Increasing resilience of healthcare facilities
- Greater health equity and climate justice
- Local group highlight

5-10 min Q&A

Case Examples

Climate & Health Grand Rounds

ecoAmerica

everyone, every day

Communication • Engagement

The Climate Ambassador Training & ClimateRx programs equip health professionals to speak, act, and engage confidently and effectively on climate and health.



Extreme Heat

Certain individuals (outdoor workers, older adults, children, and pregnant people) are more vulnerable to extreme heat. Discuss tools to screen for risk factors and strategies for preventing heat-related illnesses.



Smart Surfaces Project

APHA affiliates improved public health in urban environments through Smart Surfaces to protect public health and act as a long-term climate solution.



Air Quality

Vulnerable populations, such as children, are particularly susceptible to negative health impacts from air pollution and allergens. Learn how to communicate these risks to people and families.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
Community Health Centers®

CHARGE Partnership

This resilient and clean energy program provides energy resilience for health centers during power outages to support our most vulnerable communities.



Mental Health

Climate change can cause a breadth of mental health impacts, including trauma and longer-term anxiety and depression. Learn to mitigate mental health impacts and how climate action can alleviate eco-anxiety.