

HEALTH CARE AND CLIMATE CHANGE

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS EVERYONE'S HEALTH



Around the world, climate change is one of the greatest threats to our health today.



Climate change can lead to temperature-related illness and death, infectious diseases, injuries and illnesses due to extreme weather events, and water borne diseases.



Children, the elderly, the poor, and people with underlying health conditions face the greatest risks from climate change.

WHILE SEEKING TO DO GOOD, HEALTH CARE HAS A RESPONSIBILITY TO AVOID DOING HARM



Health care represents 20% of the U.S. and 10% of the global economies.



Health care is the second largest energy consumer in the U.S. and a major contributor to greenhouse gases.

HEALTH CARE IS IN A UNIQUE POSITION TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE



Hospitals need to prepare for extreme weather events and be anchors of resilience in their communities.



Health systems should reduce their own carbon footprint and make the transition to renewable energy and low carbon supply chains.

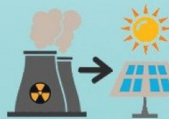


Just as they did with tobacco, health professionals can play a critical role as messengers for energy and climate policies that protect health.

HEALTH CARE'S ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND MORAL INFLUENCE CAN REBRAND CLIMATE CHANGE AS A PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE



Health benefits and climate mitigation cost savings can drive public policy and investment decisions.



Health care can validate the transition to a renewable energy economy.



Everyone can join in efforts to reduce the threat of climate change and help build more resilient and healthier communities.

