Resilience
First Steps in Preparedness

**Hospital Preparedness Program**
The Hospital Preparedness Program is a federally-funded initiative that supports regional health care system preparedness in order to improve patient outcomes, minimize the need for supplemental state and federal resources during emergencies, and enable rapid recovery. The program operates through local health care coalitions (HCCs) that bring together diverse and often competitive health care and emergency management organizations. A list of all HCCs can be found here: https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertEmergPrep/Downloads/By-Name-by-State-Healthcare-Coalitions.pdf

**US Climate Resilience Toolkit**
The Department of Health and Human Services added a health care-specific chapter to the US Climate Resilience Toolkit. This “Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Health Care Facilities Toolkit” includes an overview document and a suite of online tools and resources that highlight emerging best practices for developing sustainable, climate-resilient health care facilities. The guide provides information about threats from extreme weather events and how organizations around the country are responding. It is available here: https://toolkit.climate.gov/topics/human-health/building-climate-resilience-health-sector

Are climate risks included in your facility and regional emergency preparedness planning and implementation?

Have you completed vulnerability assessments for your facilities?
Hospitals as Anchors for Resilient Communities
Leadership
“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.”
Health Care Climate Challenge

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

178 institutions across the globe representing the interests of 17,000 hospitals and health facilities have already committed to this challenge.
How to get started!
Join or start a Green Team!
Health Care Without Harm Physician Network

- To create 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
Join our Physician Network

As trusted leaders, physicians have a unique opportunity to advance sustainable and health care to protect the health of their patients.

Health Care Without Harm’s Physician Network supports emerging areas of environmental sustainability leaders in leveraging their influence and expertise to advance the environmental sustainability movement and to create climate-smart health care. They are working with other physicians and sustainability leaders to share best practices and to inspire an ecological future.

While physicians take an oath to “do no harm,” the enormous environmental operations in the United States is contributing to the burden of disease in patients and communities. The health care sector produces an estimated 40% of greenhouse gas emissions, and hospitals consume more than 8% of all commercial buildings in the United States.

Leading hospitals have been working to reduce their environmental footprint and have been powerful champions to support the transition to environmentally sustainable health care inside and outside of their health care settings. As an article in the Atlantic points out, “physicians and health organizations have obligations to use their resources to protect health, which includes promoting sustainability.”

Get involved

- Join our network.
- Join our Facebook group.
- Plan to network with other physicians and sustainability leaders at CleanMed.
- Tell us about your sustainability work.

Physician Network goals

Physicians can be effective sustainability champions in a variety of ways including:

Health sector and hospital advocacy

Physicians can support sustainable, climate-smart health care within their hospitals and health systems by leading green teams or working with your sustainability director or chief medical officer to implement sustainable practices, and also by advocating internally for the adoption of ambitious sustainability goals.

Resources

Practice Greenhealth
Healthy Food in Health Care
Medical Society Consortium for Climate and Health
American College of Physicians’ Climate Change Toolkit
Physicians for Social Responsibility’s Building Advocacy Skills
U.S. Climate and Health Alliance State Policy Initiative
American Society of Anesthesiologists Sustainable Anesthesia guidance
My Green Doctor

Education

Physicians can educate their peers and communities about climate and health and other topics related to health sector sustainability by joining our speakers bureau.

Clinical practice

Physicians can modify their clinical practices at the bedside to protect both human and environmental health through patient education, use of environmental history tools, green pharmacy practices, and environmentally responsible delivery of patient care.

Policy advocacy

As trusted messengers, physicians are powerful advocates for public policies that protect the health of their patients, communities, and our environment. Physicians can meet with legislators, submit comments to a regulatory agency, testify before a legislative committee, or sign petitions. They can also call on their health system to publicly support renewable energy and carbon reduction goals at local, state, and national levels.

Media

Physicians have numerous opportunities to engage the media as an advocacy tool through writing letters to the editor and op-eds, providing interviews, writing blogs or other articles and through social media.

Speakers bureau

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Become a Nurse Climate Champion

NursesClimateChallenge.org

We are educating
5,000
health professionals on climate and health
Part two
PREPARING FOR CLIMATE EMERGENCIES
Oct. 30
1 p.m. ET

Part three
DELIVERING CLIMATE-SMART HEALTH CARE
Nov. 15
1 p.m. ET
Questions?

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