Climate change and preventive medicine

Abstract:

Thermal stress, food poisoning, infectious diseases, malnutrition, psychiatric illness as well as injury and death from floods, storms and fire are all likely to become more common as the earth warms and the climate becomes more variable. In contrast, obesity, type II diabetes and coronary artery disease do not result from climate change, but they do share causes with climate change. Burning fossil fuels, for example, is the major source of greenhouse gases, but it also makes pervasive physical inactivity possible. Similarly, modern agriculture's enormously increased production of livestock contributes substantially to greenhouse gas emissions, and it is the source of many of our most energy-rich foods. Physicians and societies of medical professionals have a particular responsibility, therefore, to contribute to the public discourse about climate change and what to do about it.

Source: http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/HJR.0b013e3282f30097

Resource Description

**Exposure:**
weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Ecosystem Change, Extreme Weather-Related Event/ Weather-Related Disaster, Food Quality, Food Security, Sea Level Rise, Temperature

**Extreme Weather Event:** Flood, Hurricane/Cyclone, Wildfire

**Food Quality / Contamination:** Nutritional quality

**Food Security:** Livestock Productivity, Food access/ distribution

**Temperature:** Heat, Variability

**Geographic Feature:**
resource focuses on specific type of geography

General

**Geographic Location:**
resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified Location

**Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cancer, Cardiovascular Impact, Diabetes/Obesity, Infectious Disease, Mental Health and Well-Being/Stress, Morbidity/Mortality

**Cardiovascular Effect:** Other Cardiovascular Impact, Specify

**Cardiovascular Disease (other):** Coronary Artery Disease

**Infectious Disease:** General Infectious Disease, Vectorborne Disease

**Vectorborne Disease:** Mosquito-borne Disease

**Mosquito-borne Disease:** Dengue, Malaria

**Mental Health Effect/Stress:** Other Mental Disorder, Specify

**Model/Methodology:**

type of model used or methodology development is a focus of resource

Exposure Change Prediction

**Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Commentary/Opinion

**Cross-cutting Themes:** Mitigation, Health Sector Influence

**Timescale:** Long-Term (>10 years)