Climate change and preventive medicine

Author(s): Faergeman O
Year: 2007

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

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 enormous 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.

Resource Description

Cross-cutting Themes: Mitigation, Health Sector Influence

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-Related Event/ Weather-Related Disaster:** Flood, Hurricane/Cyclone, Wildfire

**Food Quality:** 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 Impact: 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 and Well-Being / 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
Adaptation: Secondary Health Impacts of Adaptation
Mitigation: Secondary Health Impacts of Mitigation

Timescale: Long-Term (>10 years)