

Rural Physicians and Climate Change Survey

Please complete the survey below.

Thank you!

Welcome to the Survey!

Purpose of the Study:

Our goal is to gauge physician knowledge on climate change and the health outcomes being impacted, as well as how comfortable providers are discussing those health outcomes, and their willingness to consider environmental impacts of their proscribed treatments.

IRB Information:

This study has been reviewed and approved by the University of Washington Institutional Review Board (IRB) under protocol number STUDY00021410. If you have any questions about the study or your rights as a participant, please contact hsdinfo@uw.edu.

Confidentiality:

Your privacy is very important to us. All information you provide will be kept strictly confidential. Data will be de-identified and stored securely, and your responses will be used solely for research purposes.

Voluntary Participation:

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary. You may skip any questions you do not wish to answer or withdraw from the study at any time without any penalty.

By proceeding with the survey, you acknowledge that you have read and understood the above information and consent to participate in this study.

1 What city do you practice in?

2 What state do you practice in?

- ☐ AL
- ☐ AK
- ☐ AZ
- ☐ AR
- ☐ CA
- ☐ CO
- ☐ CT
- ☐ DE
- ☐ FL
- ☐ GA
- ☐ HI
- ☐ ID
- ☐ IL
- ☐ IN
- ☐ IA
- ☐ KS
- ☐ KY
- ☐ LA
- ☐ ME
- ☐ MD
- ☐ MA
- ☐ MI
- ☐ MN
- ☐ MS
- ☐ MO
- ☐ MT
- ☐ NE
- ☐ NV
- ☐ NH
- ☐ NJ
- ☐ NM
- ☐ NY
- ☐ NC
- ☐ ND
- ☐ OH
- ☐ OK
- ☐ OR
- ☐ PA
- ☐ RI
- ☐ SC
- ☐ SD
- ☐ TN
- ☐ TX
- ☐ UT
- ☐ VT
- ☐ VA
- ☐ WA
- ☐ WV
- ☐ WI
- ☐ WY

3 What gender do you identify with?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Non-binary
- ☐ Prefer to self describe
- ☐ Prefer not to answer

4 Please self describe your gender in the field below.

-
- 5 What is your health profession?
- ☐ Doctor (MD/DO)
 - ☐ Nurse Practitioner (NP)
 - ☐ Physician Assistant (PA)
 - ☐ Doctor of Nurse Practice (DNP)
-
- 6 What is your medical specialty?
- ☐ Family Medicine
 - ☐ Emergency Medicine
 - ☐ Internal Medicine
 - ☐ Obstetrics & Gynecology
 - ☐ General Surgery
 - ☐ Pediatrics
 - ☐ Psychiatry
 - ☐ Orthopedic Surgery
 - ☐ Cardiology
 - ☐ Anesthesiology
 - ☐ Geriatrics
 - ☐ Addiction Medicine
 - ☐ Palliative Care & Hospice Medicine
 - ☐ Critical Care Medicine
 - ☐ Pulmonology
 - ☐ Neurology
 - ☐ Gastroenterology
 - ☐ Endocrinology
 - ☐ Hematology & Oncology
 - ☐ Nephrology
 - ☐ Urology
 - ☐ Otolaryngology
 - ☐ Radiology (Diagnostic & Interventional)
 - ☐ Pain Medicine
 - ☐ Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
 - ☐ Infectious Disease
 - ☐ Rheumatology
 - ☐ Allergy & Immunology
 - ☐ Ophthalmology
 - ☐ Colorectal Surgery
 - ☐ Vascular Surgery
 - ☐ Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
 - ☐ Neurosurgery
 - ☐ Cardiothoracic Surgery
 - ☐ Pathology
 - ☐ Nuclear Medicine
 - ☐ Medical Genetics
-
- 7 How many years have you been in practice?
- ☐ 0-5
 - ☐ 5-10
 - ☐ 10-20
 - ☐ 20 or more
-
- 8 What is your age?
- ☐ 20-29
 - ☐ 30-45
 - ☐ 46-60
 - ☐ 60 or older
-
- 9 Is global climate change occurring?
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Unsure
-
- 10 Have you experienced climate change within your community? (e.g. increased frequency of extreme weather events, drought, etc.)
- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
 - ☐ Unsure

Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements, where 1= strongly disagree and 5 = strongly agree.

	1, Strongly Disagree	2	3	4	5, Strongly Agree
11 I believe climate change currently affects my patient's health	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
12 I believe climate change affects rural and urban communities with varying degrees of severity	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
13 I believe climate change will affect my patient's health in the future	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
14 The health impacts of climate change should be considered in the shared decision-making process	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
15 The U.S. healthcare sector is a significant contributor to CO ₂ emissions	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
16 Physicians should have an active role in addressing climate change with their patients	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
17 I am generally comfortable with counseling my patients about climate change in relation to their health	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
18 I often discuss how climate change can affect patient health with my patients	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
19 My patients' interest and/or knowledge about climate impacts is a barrier to discussing climate issues	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
20 My lack of knowledge regarding how to approach the issue with my patients is a barrier to discussing climate issues	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
21 I am concerned that bringing up climate change in the clinical setting could unfairly interfere with my patient's private lifestyle and political beliefs, potentially detracting from the trust in our relationship	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

22

	I believe that there is not enough time in the consultation to raise aspects of climate change in shared-decision making	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
23	I know how to access information on the climate impacts of clinical practices and products, including medications	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
24	I try to stay informed regarding the climate impacts of clinical practices and products, including medications	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
25	I advocate for climate friendly practices, to the best of my ability, within my social and/or professional spaces	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
26	I consider the climate impacts of clinical practices and products when prescribing	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
27	I prioritize best patient outcomes over climate considerations when in conflict	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Rank the following statements based on their level of impact on patients in your practice, considering potential environmental and climate-related factors. 1 = not impacted and 5 = strongly impacted

		1, Patients not impacted	2	3	4	5, Patients strongly impacted
28	Respiratory issues due to air quality (e.g. asthma/COPD exacerbations)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
29	Allergies (e.g. pollution, pollen)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
30	Vector-borne infectious diseases (e.g. malaria)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
31	Environmental injuries (storms, fires)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
32	Dehydration and heat stroke	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
33	Food supply and/or food quality	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
34	Mental health (depression, anxiety, stress)	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
35	Access to healthcare due to potential environmental and climate-related factors	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
36						

Geographically new diseases
(e.g. Lyme disease or
Coccidioidomycosis)

☐☐☐☐☐

37 What is your political leaning?

- ☐ Liberal
- ☐ Moderately liberal
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Moderately conservative
- ☐ Conservative
- ☐ I prefer not to answer

38 Which of the following resources, if any, would be helpful to you? (select all that apply)

- ☐ Policy statements provided by my professional associations
- ☐ Continuing medical education (CME) on climate change and health
- ☐ Patient education materials
- ☐ Guidance on how to make my workplace sustainable
- ☐ Other

39 If you selected "other", please specify in the field below.
