INTRODUCTION | BACKGROUND

- Climate change is impacting our patients’ health through increased heatwaves, wildfires, vector-borne illnesses and worsening air quality.
- Climate change’s impacts amplify existing health disparities in vulnerable communities.
- Clinicians have a powerful megaphone - and a profound responsibility - to effectively communicate the relationship between climate change & health to their patients.
- Most clinicians are “concerned” about climate change.
- Literature/google search revealed limited joint accredited CE with a clinical lens on climate change.

AIM | PURPOSE

- To design an interprofessional continuing education (CE) series on climate change and its impacts on patient health.

METHODS

INTERVENTION(S)

- Get Climate Smart CE planning group was formed (med, nursing, pharm, behavioral science, social work, sustainability).
  - Designed/delivered 5, one-hour CE accredited, clinically actionable sessions.
  - Framed by the APHA’s model on health impacts of climate change.
- Session format: Webinars.
  - Overview of specific climate change impacts.
  - 3-4 clinically relevant vignettes from varied professions and Q&A.
- A “lib guide” of resources for each session was accessible through the system’s library.

MEASURES/METRICS

- Attendance and lib guide hits were tracked.
- Attendees via “chat” asked to voluntarily complete a 1 min anonymous 4-item survey.
- IRB: Aurora Research Subject Projection Program determined that this type of work (in our medical education programs) does not constitute Human Subjects Research.

RESULTS: GET CLIMATE SMART

# Registered & Attended x Session

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Registered</th>
<th>Attended</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#1: Why Us?</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#2: Air Quality</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#3: Rising Temps</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#4: Vector Borne</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#5: Extreme Weather</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Overall, I would recommend this session to my colleagues

N=187

As a result of this session my ability to discuss the effects of climate on my patients’ health has (increased)

Discussion

- KEY FINDINGS:
  - In 1 hour, interprofessional clinicians enhanced their ability to engage patients re: effects of climate on their patients’ health via high quality, clinically focused education on climate change & health.
- LIMITATIONS:
  - Each session was basic introduction to topic for interprofessional audience.
  - All activities including survey were voluntary.
- NEXT STEPS AND SUSTAINABILITY:
  - Provide additional sessions (eg, communication).
  - Planning Committee explore opportunities to integrate climate and health into existing forums.

Selected References