

Building capacity for environmental health and climate action: engaging healthcare workers

Webinar, Wednesday, 27 April 2022, 1.00-2.00 p.m. CET (Brussels)

Hosted by EHMA, everybody welcome!

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European Public Health Association sections Health Workforce Research (EUPHA-HWR) and Environment and Health (EUPHA-ENV) and European Health Management Association (EHMA)

Chairs: Ellen Kuhlmann, Marija Jevtic, George Valiotis

The healthcare workforce plays an important role in environmental health and climate protection for two reasons. Healthcare workers themselves are in need of protection. They are facing environmental hazards that create specific health risks, for instance, through chemicals or biological agents, as the COVID-19 pandemic has most clearly demonstrated. At the same time, the health workforce is an important actor, either as a 'producer' of environmental hazards and climate damages (e.g. medical waste), or as a source of innovation and ambassador of climate protection. Healthcare workers can also play an important role in helping patients to behave in a more climate-protective way. This webinar connects health workforce research, health management, and environmental health and climate action. The presentations highlight health policy weaknesses and illuminate opportunities for change, through building organisational/managerial capacity (e.g. for waste and energy management) and through preparing healthcare workers as ambassadors of climate action.

Introduction: Building capacity for environmental health and climate action, engaging healthcare workers

Ellen Kuhlmann, Marija Jevtic, George Valiotis

Protecting healthcare workers from environmental hazards and engaging them in climate action

Marija Jevtic, President of EUPHA-ENV and Professor, Faculty of Medicine University of Novi Sad, Scientific collaborator Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), EU Climate Pact Ambassador

Medical education in the context of climate change Sophie Gepp, KLUG – German Alliance on Climate Change and Health, Berlin, Germany

Environmental and climate-protective healthcare organisations: what role for management? *George Valiotis, Executive Director of EHMA*

Mobilising healthcare workers as ambassadors of climate action: what can we do? Q+A, discussion and concluding remarks, moderated by Chairs