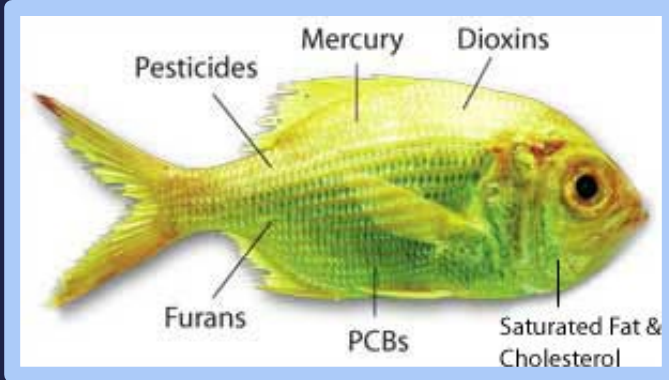


Talking about Climate Change and Health with your Physician



6/16/2016

Alanya den Boer, University of California San Francisco
with help from Arianne Teherani

What is the potential role of physicians in addressing the issue of climate change and health during their conversations with patients and do they themselves see in the position to address this issue?

Important, but HOW, WHEN and WHAT

**Different Strategies, different Specialties:
No one-size fits all approach**

Several Topics and sorts of Advice

Challenges

Time

Complexity issues

How to make it actionable

How to avoid fear

Scope doctor-patient relationship

Politicized issue

Knowledge physicians

Attitudes physicians and patients

Patient Centeredness

'It's always been about your health and illness needs and not about situating you as a human being in the larger health of the planet. I think that's probably a barrier to change ones thinking to say it's permissible to bring that into the conversation.'

Personal Beliefs and Knowledge Physicians

'I'm not sure that we should assume that every physician believes in the science of global warming even though they base their practice on science.'

'I've never really thought about it as something that I would specifically talk about with my patients.'

Carbon Neutrality Initiative Curriculum Workshop (May 31st)

- **Introduction and orientation – Drs. Teherani & Weiser**
- **Overview of climate change and call for sustainability – Chancellor Sam Hawgood**
- **Climate change and health – Dr. Linda Rudolph**
- **Addressing sustainability and environmental justice at UCSF – Dr. Dan Lowenstein, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost**
- **Overview of CNI – Matt St. Clair**
- **Overview of UCSF Sustainability – Gail Lee**
- **Transforming coursework and related exercises—Drs. Teherani and Weiser**
- **Call to action – Dr. Stan Glantz**

- Responsibility health professionals and ethics in addressing climate change;
- How changing environments impact health (infectious diseases, allergies);
- The need to reframe climate change in a positive light
- How research can be manipulated to get the response that one wants;
- Externalities of unsustainable practices;
- Preventive medicine and waste reduction;
- How to encourage students to think broadly about the environment and its consequences for health care delivery;
- The importance of advocacy in the curriculum;
- How sustainability education can be made actionable;
- Need to make links climate change and health explicitly