

# Impacts of climate change on chronic conditions

<b>Population</b>	Individuals experiencing chronic illness; individuals impacted by structural marginalization (discrimination, geography, etc.); general population (patients and health care practitioners)
<b>Intervention/Exposure</b>	Assessment of impacts of climate change on patients; healthcare practitioners' knowledge of impacts of climate change on health
<b>Comparator</b>	Current approaches to addressing climate change on health (or lack thereof)
<b>Outcomes</b>	Patient outcomes; patient/healthcare practitioner knowledge; QoL

## Interview Details:

### Why did you choose this topic and why is it important to you?

- They have a background as a social worker in healthcare settings; have 13 years patient experience with chronic illness; interest in environmental justice.
  - Gained insight into how inequities affect how individuals interact with healthcare system and disproportionate impacts of climate change on vulnerable and/or marginalized patients and groups.
  - Collaborated with [Centre for Collaborative Healthcare and Education](#).
- They noted that other jurisdictions may be used as exemplars in climate preparedness (e.g., British Columbia has a [Climate Preparedness and Adaptation Strategy](#)).

### What do you hope to learn from researching this topic?

- Increased awareness on the importance of climate change in healthcare systems and delivery.

- Mobilize existing knowledge to tailor strategies to:
  - Better support vulnerable populations.
  - Improve care from systemic, organizational, and provider level.
- Increased qualitative research (e.g., surveys with patients, focus groups with patients and providers).

### Who needs to know about the findings?

- Patients
- Healthcare providers
- Healthcare systems
- Policy-makers
- Advocacy groups (e.g., Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment)
- Professional associations and colleges

### Is there anything that you feel a panel of patients, caregivers, healthcare providers, and policy-makers should keep in mind when reviewing this topic?

- Not applicable

## Feasibility Assessment Results

### Summary:

One systematic review was identified during the scoping literature search. The following review by Witt et al (2015) was assessed using AMSTAR-2. A summary of the AMSTAR-2 assessment is provided in the table below.

<b>Review #1:</b> <a href="#">Witt et al, 2015</a>
<b>CRITICALLY LOW</b> quality rating ● ○ ○ ○
<b>Critical flaw:</b> Missing several checklist items <b>Study design:</b> Systematic review

### Conclusion:

This topic has a critically low quality systematic review, which suggests that there is scope to conduct further research in this area