



What are the experiences of teachers and students of introducing planetary health into undergraduate medical curricula?

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What is Planetary Health?

- Our health and the health of our planet are inextricably linked
- The health of the human population is dependent on the natural systems of our planet.
- Umbrella term, incorporating:
 - climate change
 - global warming
 - sustainable practice

Why is sustainable healthcare relevant to me?

- Flooding - 1 in 3 mental health problems
- Extreme heat – 2022 3,000 deaths
- Air pollution – up to 38,000 deaths annually

Beat the Heat

Keep in touch

- Look after yourself, older people and the young
- Listen to the weather forecast and the news
- Plan ahead to avoid the heat

Keep well

- Drink plenty of water, cut back on alcohol & caffeinated drinks
- Dress appropriately for the weather
- Slow down when it is hot

Find somewhere cool

- Know how to keep your home cool
- Go indoors or outdoors, whichever feels cooler
- Cars get hot, avoid closed spaces

Watch out

- Be on the lookout for signs of heat related illness
- Cool your skin with water, slow down and drink water
- Stay safe when swimming
- Get help. Call NHS 111 or in an emergency 999

For more information go to www.nhs.uk/heatwave

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Air pollution affects you from your first breath to your last



What we did:

- A meta-ethnography to explore faculty and students' experience of introducing planetary health into the undergraduate medical curriculum

Our findings:

- PH has been successfully integrated; there is appetite for the topic and recognition of the importance of PH
- PH is not universally acknowledged as relevant to be included in undergraduate curriculums
- Faculty enthusiasm and Institutional support are essential drivers for its introduction
- Faculty lack of knowledge and confidence on teaching PH was apparent
- PH flattens medical education hierarchies, with reports of junior educators being the more experienced and knowledgeable on the topic
- Reports of teaching PH causing climate anxiety to students

Outcomes

- General consensus on the importance of the PH
- Evidence of it being successfully integrated into the curriculum in multiple countries
- Faculty Development on PH is required
- Important to consider the impact on student wellbeing when teaching the topic