



Repower Health



Repower Health is made up of health professionals, students and community members taking action to address climate change and related threats to health.

Repower Health Aims

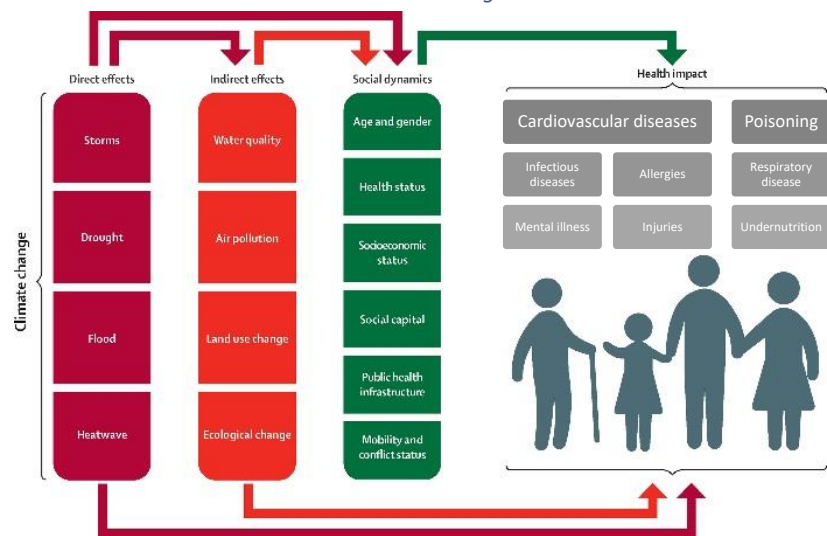
1. Map all the health services in Australia that have solar power, creating an online network and sharing their stories.
2. Catalyse other health services to make the switch to renewables by providing up-to-date, relevant information on renewable energy options and empowering health sector workers to be the influencers in their workplaces to **REPOWER HEALTH!**
3. Forge networks of health professionals concerned about the links between climate change and health.

Pollution & Health

Links between pollution and health:

- Air and water pollution emitted by fossil fuel mining and combustion contributes to a range of health conditions affecting the cardiovascular, respiratory and nervous systems;
- Exposure to pollutants may cause or exacerbate asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lung cancer;
- Toxic particles in pollution can also cause inflammation in distant parts of the body, leading to heart attacks and strokes;
- Chronic exposure to pollution can result in mercury poisoning and impaired brain development, particularly in children;
- The healthcare sector is a major contributor to Australia's carbon footprint, estimated to be more than 7% of Australia's national emissions.

Figure 1: The Direct & Indirect Effects of Climate Change on Health & Wellbeing



Source: The Lancet Commission, 2015. *Health and Climate Change: Policy response to protect public health.* The Lancet

Further Information

Visit the Repower Health website at: www.repowerhealth.org.au. To join the Repower Health Community and promote renewable energy in the healthcare sector go onto our website and sign up for updates or email Alex Bhathal at alex@healthyfutures.net.au to find out more.

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