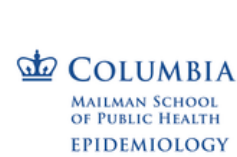


CLIMATE CHANGE & HEALTH

Non-Communicable Diseases

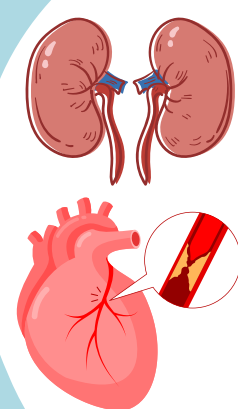


1

CLIMATE CHANGE, NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCD) & YOU

NCDs

- Non communicable diseases do not pass from one person to another and occur over a long term and last a long time
- Major NCD in the Caribbean: cardiovascular disease (e.g., heart disease, high blood pressure), obesity, diabetes (e.g., high blood sugar), cancers, respiratory disease (e.g. allergies, asthma), skin conditions (e.g. eczema, rashes), mental illness (e.g. depression).

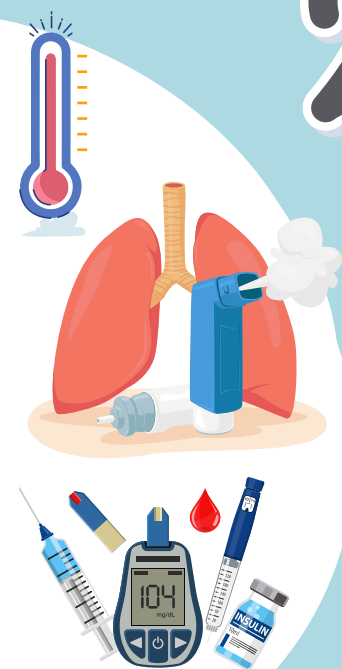


2

NEGATIVE CLIMATE CHANGE INCREASES NCD BURDEN IN THE CARIBBEAN

NCD VULNERABILITIES

- The result of NCDs is excess deaths annually and reduced economic productivity
- Increased heat stress leading to heat stroke, kidney disease and death
- Limited physical activity and decreased access to healthy foods leading to high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes and heart disease
- Increased mental health disease (e.g., anxiety, depression) due to distress from property loss and damage, limits on access to resources (including health services), family separation, loss of income and increased long term disability



3

HOW CAN YOU AND YOUR COMMUNITY LESSEN IMPACTS AND ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE?

YOU

- Reduce fossil fuel and energy use
- Limit outdoor activities to certain hours
- Keep updated on weather events
- Talk with your elected officials
- Drink lots of water (not sugary drinks)
- Reduce household waste; recycle

COMMUNITY

- Create community walking groups
- Consider carpooling
- Support local gardening efforts
- Work with local climate change NGOs to reduce climate change



HEALTH

4

TOOLS FOR WORKING WITH PATIENTS AND COMMUNITIES

COMMUNITY

- Advocacy - advocate for climate change action
- Coalition building - finding the right partners for collaborative work
- Participatory action - building on skill sets, ideas and voice of community members
- Evaluate community knowledge and awareness and avenues for receiving information (for example social media preference) and reading level for targeted group
- Greater surveillance to remove paucity of NCD and NCD & Climate data for CARICOM





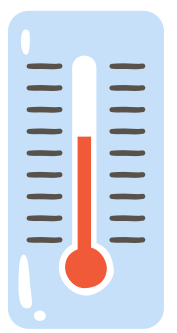
CLIMATE CHANGE & HEALTH

CARIBBEAN

WHAT IS CLIMATE CHANGE?

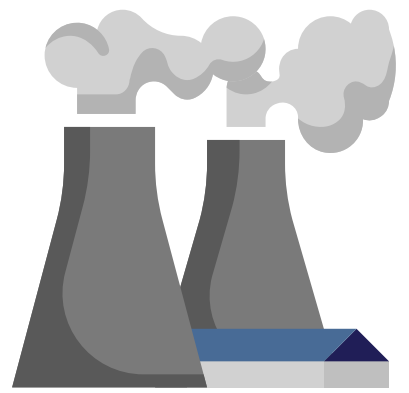
Long-term shifts or variations in the average temperature and weather patterns

+1.5°C



WHAT ACTIONS CAUSE CLIMATE CHANGE?

Burning fossil fuels, industrial processes, landfills, burning garbage, use of non-biodegradable plastics, and deforestation



72% of global emissions are due to energy production

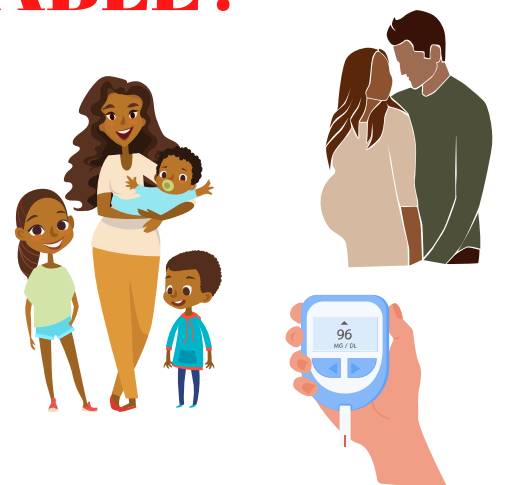
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE IN CARICOM NATIONS?

Severe storms and increased hurricane frequency, intense droughts, water shortages, flooding, disease spread, beach erosion, rising sea levels and freshwater salting, extreme heat, tourism decline, food insecurity, infrastructure damage, housing displacement, health system disruption, political and governance instability



WHO IS MOST VULNERABLE?

Young children, elderly, pregnant women, lower income status, those with pre-existing health conditions including chronic disorders



70% of deaths in Caribbean are due to NCDs

