



MEDIA ADVISORY

For Immediate Release
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National Medical Association and George Washington University Release Research Findings on Effects of Climate Change on Health

- What:** The National Medical Association (NMA) and George Mason University's Center for Climate Change Communication in cooperation with the MomentUS of ecoAmerica will hold a press conference today to discuss and release the findings of a recent survey they conducted with physicians that provides evidence that doctors are seeing the health harms caused by climate change, particularly in communities of color.
- When:** 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, June 25, 2014
- Where:** Bloomberg Room
National Press Club
529 14th St. NW, 13th Floor, Washington, DC 20045
- Why:** Health effects that physician respondents are observing and treating more frequently include increases in severity of chronic heart and lung diseases, including asthma due to air pollution; heat-related effects; injuries from severe storms, floods, and fires; vector-borne infections such as Lyme Disease and West Nile Virus; illnesses from food and water following downpours or floods; and allergic symptoms from prolonged exposure to plants or mold.
- Who:** Speakers at Wednesday morning's press conference include the NMA's Dr. Mark Mitchell; Dr. Mona Sarfaty of George Mason University's Center for Climate Change Communication; Dr. Georges Benjamin, Executive Director of the American Public Health Association; and a teenager and adult patient who both suffer from asthma.

This is the first survey of physicians on the health effects of climate change. Earlier this month, the White House issued a report entitled The Health Impacts of Climate Change on Americans.

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Founded in 1895, the National Medical Association (NMA) is the nation's oldest and largest medical association representing the interests of more than 35,000 African American physicians and their patients. The NMA repeatedly advocates for policies that would assure equitable and quality health care for all people.