

Climate Change and Dermatology: Evidence, Impact & Sustainable

Combined Course (Residents & Specialists) | 28-30 Apr 2027 | Amsterdam, Netherlands

Description

This course brings together up to 30 resident and specialist dermatologists from across Europe to explore the scientific evidence behind climate change and other environmental variables and their effects on skin health as well as the relation to the specialty of dermatology.

Participants will examine how temperature-, moisture- and UV-variability, as well as environmental stressors, including pollution, are influencing a variety of dermatoses (immune-mediated inflammatory dermatoses exemplified with atopic dermatitis, skin cancer, and infectious diseases).

Regarding sustainable practice, the course analyses low-carbon outpatient models, innovative materials, green photoprotection and skin care, eco-friendly holistic therapeutic strategies, waste reduction policies, digital tools and hospital footprint management.

Attendees will develop their own sustainability implementation plan and share solutions adaptable to various clinical settings in Europe.

Learning Objectives

1. Explain the relationship between climate change and dermatology and its implications for patient care and public health.
 2. Recognize skin diseases associated with climatic factors and environmental exposure.
 3. Evaluate the evidence linking pollution and environmental factors to dermatoses and skin cancer.
 4. Integrate environmental considerations into dermatological practice, including prevention, diagnosis, and treatment strategies.
 5. Define strategies to implement sustainable measures in dermatology units and hospitals.
 6. Explore ways of reducing waste in offices and clinics - denoting specific examples (e.g. surgical procedures and phototherapy.)
 7. Assess environmental impact of dermatologic products and prescriptions.
 8. Communicate climate-health risks and prevention strategies to patients, peers and public
 9. Design an actionable sustainability roadmap for the own institution.
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Faculty

Chairs: Bing Thio, Dennis Niebel
Speakers: David de Berker, Markus Starink, Yolanda Gilaberte
Tutors: Snejina Vassileva, Katarina Zak Stangeland, Vincent Cattin, Marta Fusano, Amy Livesey, Julija Mitriva, Simon Tso, Diala Haykal

Programme

Wednesday 28 April 2027

13:00 - 14:00	Registration
14:00 - 14:15	Introduction: welcome, objectives of the course, introduction to planetary health Bing Thio & Dennis Niebel
14:15 - 15:15	CLIMATE, POLLUTION, AND CLINICAL DERMATOLOGY The climate emergency and human health (WHO perspective) and evidence linking climate change to (skin) disease Yolanda Gilaberte
15:15 - 15:45	Immune-mediated inflammatory dermatoses, pollution & climate – atopic dermatitis as model disease Bing Thio
15:45 - 16:15	Emerging vector-borne and infectious diseases in Europe and worldwide Markus Starink
16:15 - 16:30	Coffee Break
16:30 - 17:00	Skin cancer, pollution and climate – the role of the exposome Yolanda Gilaberte
17:00 - 17:30	Dermatological diseases associated to environmental disasters Markus Starink
17:30 - 18:15	WORKSHOP ACTIVITY Clinical cases connected to environmental variables from own experience or the medical literature <i>Prepared in advance by participants; presentation in groups of 6 people (5min each case)</i>
18:15 - 18:30	Discussion, Q&A, Recap Participants and faculty

Thursday 29 April 2027

09:00 - 09:45	GOVERNANCE: ROLE OF HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, PROFESSIONAL BODIES, AND INDUSTRY 1. Carbon assessment in hospitals and healthcare 2. National and corporate healthcare bodies and initiatives in sustainability 3. Government initiatives Dennis Niebel
09:45 - 10:30	4. Corporate healthcare provider initiatives 5. Initiatives by professional medical bodies and non-governmental organisations other than dermatology 6. Industry and pharmaceutical initiatives Dennis Niebel
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 - 11:15	SUSTAINABLE DERMATOLOGICAL CARE Sustainable outpatient practice in clinical dermatology – innovative models encompassing digital solutions David de Berker

11:15 - 11:45	Sustainable dermatological surgery – innovative models of care, equipment and waste management David de Berker
11:45 - 12:15	WORKSHOP ACTIVITY Brainstorming and mindmapping: definition of priority areas for EADV and national dermatology professional bodies Participants
12:15 - 13:15	Lunch
13:15 – 14:15	Presentation of workshop results, discussion and practical implications Participants and faculty
14:15 – 15:15	Dermatological treatments and their environmental impact 1. Negative aspects: carbon footprint, freshwater use, harmful ingredients, poor biodegradability, pollution of wastewater streams and ecosystems 2. Positive aspects: eco-friendly solutions for topicals, low frequency dosing and monitoring, innovative packaging Dennis Niebel
15:15 - 15:45	Coffee Break
15:45 – 16:30	The dual sword of photoprotection 1. Rationale for photoprotection in dermatology 2. Biological implications of physical and biological UV-filters 3. Eco-friendly solutions and practical aspects Bing Thio
16:30 - 18:00	Toolkit for sustainable action 1. How to measure sustainability and progress in Dermatology: audit frameworks and programmes 2. Resources for patients, managers and clinicians: guidelines, policies, implementation frameworks, carbon assessment tools David de Berker
20:00	Networking Dinner with participants and faculty members

Friday, 30 April 2027

09:00 - 09:30	WORKSHOP ACTIVITY - What will you do next? Introduction: how to outline action, process, outcome, evaluation and time frame. Yolanda Gilaberte & David de Berker
09:30 - 10:45	Work in groups <i>This is the session where registrants will pick elements from the course and see where their interest and priorities lie.</i> <i>Examples could include:</i> • Set up a medical student group to discuss, evaluate and educate. What tools will you use, what examples will you use, are there practical sessions as well as theory? Could patients be involved? • Join the professional body in your country to formulate an action plan and find means to disseminate it and measure outcomes. What kind

	<i>of challenges will there be? Who are the key players? How will you maximise your communication and reach?</i> • <i>Change your Dermatological surgery service – auditing it before and after to document progress. Which elements of service and types of surgery will be involved? Who will need to be part of the project? How will you measure the effects?</i> • <i>Change your model of care for skin cancer in order that you can provide 50% see and treat on the day of initial consultation. Create an implementation plan.</i> • <i>Create an academical project in the field of sustainability, find funding, mentoring and support in your personal setting</i> Participants, supported by all faculty
10:45 - 11:00	Coffee Break
10:45 - 12:00	Presentation of group projects and discussion Participants and faculty
12:00 - 13:00	Roadmap 2030: Strategic actions for sustainable dermatology in Europe and beyond Yolanda Gilaberte
13:00 - 13:15	Farewell and next steps Bing Thio & Dennis Niebel

The programme might be subject to changes.