Knowledge Through Expertise

NHS Hampshire Healthcare Library Service

Sustainability in Healthcare Update September 2026

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Case Studies

Greener NHS (england.nhs.uk)

Case Studies from the Green Team Competition

First Wins Library - The Community of Practice for Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Sustainable Health Systems (atachcommunity.com)

Case Studies - Plants First Healthcare

Reducing our environmental impact – Trust completes four-year greenhouse gas reduction project | Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust

Countess of Chester Hospital leading the way with greener fleet move | Countess of Chester Hospital

Recirculate project gifts bikes to hospital staff for second year | News | Mid Yorks

Coventry and Warwickshire ICB Green Team Competition 2026 – Centre for Sustainable Healthcare

NHS

A survey of attitudes, behaviours and barriers to environmental sustainability among healthcare staff at an NHS trust – BMJ Leader

How Can UK Hospitals Transform to Net Zero Carbon Emissions? - Br J Hosp Med

Extreme heat and cause-specific risk of hospital admission in the adult population in England: a case time series analysis – BMJ Open

The implementation of electronic clinical decision tools to reduce inappropriate urine and swab requests: A diagnostic stewardship intervention to reduce the environmental impact of laboratory testing - Ann Clin Biochem

Climate Change

From population to individual: advocating personalised digital tools for heat-health early warning in a changing climate - The Lancet Planetary Health

Allied Health Professionals

Potential carbon savings in the management of shoulder dislocations through allied health professional-led patient pathways: an observational study using audit data – BMJ Leader

Digital

The role of sensors for building individual climate resilience and mitigating the impact on health services from extreme weather events such as heatwaves: A perspective review – J Climate Change & Health

Estates & Facilities

Comprehensive evaluation of typical medical waste treatment technologies in view of environmental and economic perspectives – Environmental Research

Limited mitigation potential of downstream waste management: A facility-level life cycle assessment of hospital PPE systems - Journal of Hazardous Materials Advances

Food & Nutrition

Development, implementation, and evaluation of a

Planetary Health menu in a Canadian hospital: an experimental study - The Lancet Planetary Health

Guidance

Local Authority Risk and Adaptation Toolkit: Heat Edition - GOV.UK

Journal Articles

Adaptation and mitigation approaches to reduce heat-related health risks: An overview of systematic reviews – Environmental Research

Assessing the carbon footprint of inhalation anaesthesia, total intravenous anaesthesia, and spinal anaesthesia for a single surgical procedure: a prospective observational study - BJA

Associations between short-term absolute increases in ambient air pollution and hospital admissions and outpatient visits for depression: A nationwide case-crossover study - Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety

Can we treat dry eyes without destroying our planet? a critical analysis of environmental sustainability in dry eye disease management - Contact Lens and Anterior Eye

Carbon footprint evaluation for waste management of fluorinated anaesthetics in the UK using mathematical modelling - BJA

Carbon footprint of anaesthesia pharmaceuticals and disposable products during Caesarean delivery: a single-centre prospective observational study - British Journal of Anaesthesia

Carbon footprint of cataract surgery in a French university hospital: Accurate assessment and new avenues for improvement – J Fr Ophtalmol.

Carbon footprint of disposable, hybrid, and reusable trocars in diverse hospital settings: a life cycle assessment - Surg Endosc

Clinical waste management - Infect Prev Pract

Comparable twelve-month clinical outcomes but higher environmental impact of arthroscopic versus mini-open rotator cuff repair: A comparative cohort study - Orthop Traumatol Surg Res

Environmental benefits of reintroducing reusable drapes and gowns in the operating room – BJS Open

Environmental impact of laparoscopic and robotic colorectal surgery: a systematic review - J Robot Surg

Environmental impact of urine analyses: Comparison of manual, semi and fully automated analytical workflows - J Clim Chang Health

Environmental sustainability of nutrition support in a hospital setting: An observational study of waste reduction and management – Nutr Diet

Extreme temperatures and out-of-hospital cardiac arrest: a systematic review and narrative synthesis - Resuscitation

From carbon cost to climate care: Greening our intensive care units - World J Crit Care Med

Global environmental and geo-economic impact of conservative versus liberal oxygen strategies in mechanically ventilated critically ill adults: an ecological country-level analysis - BJA

Impacts of extreme air pollution events on pregnancy outcomes: A systematic review – Environmental Research

Improving cancer care while reducing its carbon footprint: GHG-mitigating strategies highlighted at ESMO 2025 - BJC Rep

Integrating Environmental Impact Analysis into Endoscopy Research: Bringing Sustainability to the Forefront - Gastrointestinal Endoscopy Clinics of North America

Oral vs parenteral drug administration: quantifying the future health cost of routine prescribing choices through their environmental scope – J Climate Change & Health

Patient Perspectives on Climate Change and Sustainable Healthcare Practices: A Cross-Sectional Survey Study in Patients with Inflammatory Bowel Disease - J Gastrointestin Liver Dis

Compiled by Lucy Gilham, Knowledge Specialist at Hampshire Hospitals Library Service
Contact: Lucy.Gilham@hhft.nhs.uk

Planned cesarean section or attempted vaginal delivery: Which is more environmentally friendly? An observational life cycle assessment study in France - Acta Obstet Gynecol Scand

Reconciling Subsistence Emissions and Prevention in Environmentally Sustainable Healthcare - J Bioeth Inq

Systematic overview of climate actions for health in cities | Nature Cities

The environmental footprint and ecotoxicity of sevoflurane and propofol anaesthesia: a retrospective observational modelling study - BJA

Towards a sustainable oral and maxillofacial surgery service: BAOMS proposal for sustainability strategy and priorities for implementation within UK practice – British Journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (Editorial)

UK infection societies' position statement on glove use in health and social care – Clinical Infection in Practice

Mental Health

Climate change and mental health | Mind

Natural environment interventions decrease tension, fatigue, confusion and negative affect related to climate change – EBN

Protecting mental health from extreme heat: Recommendations for policy and action | PreventionWeb, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

Nursing & Midwifery

Association Between Midwifery Students' Awareness of Global Climate Change and Their Attitudes and Behaviours Toward Medical Waste – Nurs Open

Effects of green management training on nurse managers' environmental sustainability: a randomised controlled trial | British Journal of Healthcare Management

Environmental Sustainability-Related Knowledge, Behaviors, and Perceived Barriers Among Italian Intensive Care Unit Nurses: A Cross-Sectional Survey - Healthcare

Greener beginnings: Exploring the carbon footprints of midwifery group practice and standard maternity care in regional Australia – Women & Birth

Integrating nature into healthcare to enhance the health and well-being of staff and patients – Nurse Manager

Pharmacy

Medical patch disposal practices and information sources: A pharmacy customer survey before and after an information initiative - Explor Res Clin Soc Pharm

Towards appropriate guidance for the ethical challenges of environmentally sustainable prescribing - Br J Clin Pharmacol

Sustainable drug delivery systems: Biodegradable carriers for a carbon-neutral pharma future - Drug Discov Today

Reports/Policy Papers/Toolkits/Pathways/Statistics

Air Pollution Awareness Coalition (APAC) - GOV.UK

British Thoracic Society Sustainability Toolkit | Respiratory Futures

Children's Climate Risk Report (2026) - UNICEF DATA

Climate-related mortality, England and Wales: 1988 to 2025 - Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Green Infrastructure and Health - Natural England

Heat–Health Action Plans: Guidance - WHO

RCN Briefing on the Impact of Extreme Heat on Patients | Royal College of Nursing

Remote Consultations: Do they reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions? Your Guide to Calculating the Answer - 2026 | Sustainable Healthcare Networks Hub

Summer Health and Resilience - Hansard - UK Parliament

The 2026 Europe Cities Report of the Lancet Countdown on health and climate change: cities at the forefront of climate change action - The Lancet Public Health

The Clinician's Pocket Guide to Eco-Vet Vendors – Clinically Sustainable Consulting LLC (& Academic Lab)

Weathering Extremes: A Toolkit for Information Resilience Amid Disaster - The Council on Strategic Risks

Research

6 things you can do to reduce the environmental impact of clinical research trial – Grantham Institute, Imperial College

SusQI

Sustainability in Quality Improvement: Outcomes of a Novel Pediatric Virtual Urgent Care in Ontario, Canada - Western Journal of Emergency Medicine

News/Commentary/Opinion

Revealed: More than 1,000 NHS operations cancelled due to record UK heatwaves - Carbon Brief

Government announces £32m to strengthen hospitals' resilience to extreme heat | The BMJ

Events/CPD

Green Gastroenterology Challenge Showcase 2026, 4th November 2pm – 4:0pm Online

Events Calendar 2026 – Centre for Sustainable Healthcare

Apprenticeships - The LDN Sustainable Healthcare Academy

Sustainability courses for nurses and midwives — Centre for Sustainable Healthcare Free courses for registered nurses and midwives

Training hub - Greener NHS Knowledge Hub - FutureNHS Collaboration Platform

Healthcare and sustainability education and training - CPDmatch - find courses, conferences, webinars, study days and relevant articles.

Listen / Watch / Read

Building a culture of sustainability in healthcare: Lessons from the evidence – Centre for Sustainable Healthcare Blog

Ten Ways to Reduce Single Use Plastic in Your Practice - Greener Practice

Waste reduction and circular economy in healthcare | NHE Podcast

Climate scenarios and what they help us explore – POST UK Parliament

Decarbonising and extreme heat – the twin challenge for the NHS - elementalLondon

New urban heat islands analysis (UK) | Ordnance Survey

NHS England — North East and Yorkshire » Transforming Primary Care Podcast

The Journal of Climate Change and Health

The Lancet Planetary Health

Climate change bulletin - The Knowledge Network Public Health Scotland,

E-Books

NHS England have provided a collection of 27 e-books on Sustainability which are freely available with your NHS OpenAthens login

Access e-books on Sustainability here

Register for an OpenAthens account here

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