



**Physicians for Social Responsibility
Maine Chapter**

Maine Update

April 21, 2010

Maine Hears Military and Medical Perspectives on Eliminating the Current Nuclear Threat

On the eve of the new START treaty signing, Dr. Ira Helfand and Col. Richard Klass barnstormed across Maine, bringing their nonproliferation message to five communities in two days. Helfand, from PSR, and Col. Klass, from the Council for a Livable World, spoke to about 130 people in Portland, Lewiston, Brunswick, Waterville and Orono.



(L-R Ira Helfand MD, PSR Maine board member Andrew Cadot, Col. Richard Klass, board treasurer Syd Sewall MD, board co-president Daniel Oppenheim MD)

The tour generated substantial media coverage, including an April 6 [story in the Lewiston Sun Journal](#) that noted that "Helfand and Klass hope to get Maine Sens. Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins to support [the new START] treaty, perhaps even taking leadership roles among Republicans."

After listening to Helfand and Klass's presentation, many audience members signed letters to Senators Snowe and Collins urging them to take a positive stance on the treaty. The letters are now available online. Click [here](#) for the Collins letter and [here](#) for the Snowe letter

To learn more, [download](#) full audio of the pair's USM presentation or listen to [MPBN radio's story](#) about the tour.

Climate Change for Clinicians: Forum in Portland May 20th CMEs and CEUs Available

Limited seating for 50 clinicians. Register before May 14th!
May 20th, 2010
8:30am-11:30am
Holiday Inn by the Bay
Portland, Maine
Free

Click to View:
Nuclear Speaking Tour
Climate Change & Health
Conference
Healthy Aging
Adverse Childhood Events
Online Resources
Continuing Ed Courses

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[Pediatric
Environmental Health
Toolkit](#)

The Toolkit is a combination of easy-to-use reference guides for health providers and user friendly health education materials on preventing exposures to toxic chemicals and other substances that affect infant and child health. The materials are visually appealing, practical and easy to use. The Toolkit is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

[Learn more](#) about the Toolkit or [download it](#) to your Blackberry, iPhone, Palm or Windows Mobile device.

[Hazardous Chemicals
in Health Care](#)

This PSR report details the first investigation ever of chemicals found in the bodies of health care professionals. Mainer Stephanie Lash, MD and Rep. Anne Perry, NP

To Register: Email [Kellie Miller](mailto:kellie.miller@maine-medical.org) at the Maine Medical Association and indicate in the subject line that you would like to register for the Climate Change Forum.

Expert Faculty:

**Paul R. Epstein, MD, MPH, Associate Director,
Harvard Center for Global Health and the Environment**



Dr. Epstein has worked in medical, teaching and research capacities in Africa, Asia and Latin America and in 1993, coordinated an eight part series on Health and Climate Change for the British Medical Journal, Lancet. He has worked with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to assess the health impacts of climate change and develop health applications of climate forecasting and remote sensing. Dr. Epstein received recognition for his contributions on the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007.

**Paul A. Mayewski, PhD, Explorer and Scientist Director & Professor,
The Climate Change Institute, University of Maine**



Dr. Mayewski has developed integrated understanding of multiple controls on climate and unique role of human impact, demonstrated associations between climate and disruptions to civilization. He has led more than 50 expeditions to remote regions such as the Antarctica, the Arctic, Himalayas, Tibetan Plateau and more. He is the co-author of the popular climate change book: "The Ice Chronicles."

The earth's climate is in the midst of significant change and with it comes the impact upon human health. Increased respiratory allergies, asthma attacks, days lost from work due to respiratory disease, emergency room visits, hospitalization rates, and mortality are all symptoms of climate changes. Physicians, Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners and Nurses are being called upon to increase their involvement in educational efforts on the impending health problems due to climate change and the adaptive and mitigating actions that can be taken in the public health policy arena. A limited number of seats (50) are available for clinicians to attend this forum that will address the scientific underpinnings of climate change and identify human health effects and implications for public health.

The program will conclude with a reactor panel of experts to facilitate an in-depth discussion with attendees.

CME Activity Objectives

As a result of participating in this activity attendees will be able to:

1. Identify human health effects and implications for public health.
2. Describe the scientific underpinnings of climate change.

CME Credit/Accreditation

participated in the study.

Free Continuing Education Courses

How to Screen Patients for Domestic Violence Exposure

Earn CMEs by attending this one hour introduction to safe and effective domestic violence screening and referral. To book a training at your location or to learn more, contact [Janey Morse](mailto:janey.morse@psrmaine.org).

Pediatric Environmental Health Refresher Course

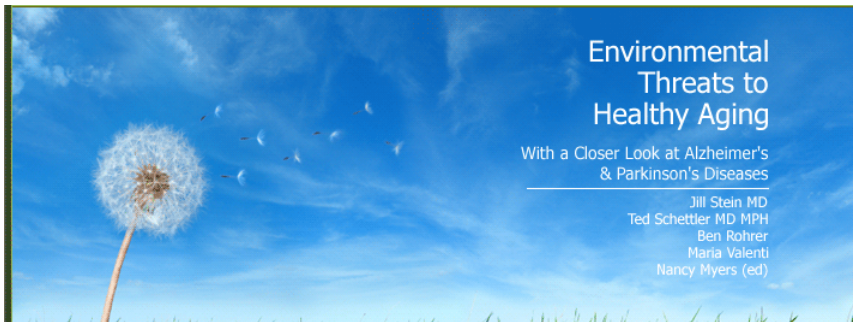
Taught by PSR Maine clinician members, this one hour course uses case studies to explore contemporary environmental health practice. To book a training or to learn more, contact [Sue Kring](mailto:sue.kring@psrmaine.org).

How to Use the Environmental Pediatric Health Toolkit: An

The American Medical Association designates this educational activity for a maximum of 2.0 AMA PRA Category 1 credits. CEU's have been applied for.

Co-sponsored by:
The Harvard Center for Global Health and the Environment, The American Medical Association and the Maine Medical Association

Environmental Threats to Healthy Aging: A Train-the-Presenter Webinar



PSR Maine is working with Greater Boston PSR to inform clinicians and the general public about environmental drivers of chronic disease and implications for healthy aging. Please help!

We're seeking volunteer presenters to share this important information at conferences, professional meetings, and community lectures. If you're interested, we ask that you attend one of the train-the-presenter webinars that will be offered in May. You'll expand your knowledge of environmental health across the lifespan and become more comfortable speaking to others on this topic. The webinar will be led by Ted Schettler MD MPH, co-author of Greater Boston PSR's peer-reviewed report [Environmental Threats to Healthy Aging](#).

The 1.5 hour webinar will be held on the following dates:

Monday, May 10th 7pm EDT
Tuesday, May 18th 1pm EDT
Wednesday, May 19th 9pm EDT

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Susan Kring via [email](#) or at 772-6714.

Dr. Vincent Felitti speaks at MMC on June 22

Dr. Felitti is one of the principal investigators of the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study, a long-term, in-depth analysis of over 18,000 adults that matches their current health status against eight categories of

Online Course

Physicians, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners and other health professionals can earn 1.5 credit hours by taking this on-demand online offering from PSR and the CDC. Includes an introduction to environmental health, case studies, a lesson on how to take environmental health histories and specific guidance on using PSR's Environmental Health Toolkit. To take the course or to learn more, please visit the [ATSDR website](#).

Quick Links

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adverse childhood experiences. Findings to date reveal a powerful relationship between our emotional experiences as children and our physical and mental health as adults, as well as a strong link with the major causes of adult mortality in the United States.

Dr. Felitti's presentation is free. Space is limited. Please RSVP [here](#).



PROGRAM:

The Implications of Adverse Childhood Events:

Implications for Physicians and Early Childhood Professionals

SPEAKER:

Vincent J. Felitti, MD
Department of Preventive Medicine,
Kaiser Permanente Medical Care Program,
San Diego, CA

Tuesday,
June 22, 2010,
4 – 5:30 PM

■ **REGISTRATION:**
There's no charge for this event
Space is limited
RSVP suggested but not required; respond to tstevens@mekids.org

Charles Dana Center
for Health Education,
Maine Medical Center,
Portland, Maine

■ **SPONSORED BY:**
Maine Medical Center, Department of Pediatrics
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ACCESS:
Maine Medical Center has the means available to assist persons with disabilities who have needs relative to participation in this conference. If you need special parking assistance due to a disability, please call MMC's Parking Office (662-2123) to make arrangements. Individuals who need auxiliary aids for effective communication in programs and services of the Dana Center should make their needs and preferences known in advance to the MMC employee sponsoring the program.

PSR/Maine uses the values and expertise of medicine and public health to protect human life from the greatest threats to health and survival.

Contact:
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