



Draft Abstract for Nurses Presenting at Conferences

This draft abstract is designed to accompany the CNA educational module *The Role of Nurses in Addressing Climate Change*. You may use this draft abstract as the basis for your submission to a conference's Call for Abstracts.

Abstract to the **TITLE OF CONFERENCE**
NAME OF THEME

Nursing's Role in Climate Change
NAME, CREDENTIALS

There is strong evidence that the world's climate is changing as a result of human activity. Research also shows that climate change is having a negative effect on health, especially in lower-income countries. Nurses need to be prepared to support individuals, families and communities in adapting to the changing climate and to engage in broader initiatives to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.

The presentation will provide information on climate change as both a health and a social justice issue and provide examples of actions nurses can take.

More specifically, the presentation will:

1. Provide an overview of the science of climate change;
2. Identify links between climate change and health in Canada and internationally;
3. Explore nursing's role in helping populations adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change; and
4. Identify potential policy changes that will support both mitigation and adaptation.

Nurses are uniquely qualified to bring information on climate change to the public. They have both the necessary scientific background and the communication skills to get the message across in an understandable way. Their expertise in health promotion and behavioural change also equips them to foster lifestyle choices that will decrease greenhouse gas emissions by Canadians. Finally, nurses can intervene at the policy level on climate change through their professional associations.

Participants will leave the session with a greater understanding of climate change and its effects on health, and a sense of what role they can play to help Canadians adapt to and mitigate the effects of the changing climate.

Word count: 253

Note to Potential Conference Presenters

To increase your chance of being accepted as a presenter, you may need to slightly modify the title or body of the abstract to better reflect the conference's theme and sub-themes. You might also consider adding a personal example from your own nursing practice. Congratulations on taking this step and good luck with your presentation!