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Short Commentary

Xu Han-You

Department of High Dependency Unit, Tongxiong Oriental Hospital, Zhejiang Province, China

*Corresponding author: Xu Han-You, Department of High Dependency Unit, Tongxiong Oriental Hospital, Zhejiang Province, China, Tel: +8615518962531; Email: abc13579-you@126.com

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Abstract

The aim of the paper is to promote the public health by treating the impacts of climate change on health well. The world has been suffering from the worse impacts of climate change. While there is no way to cope with it. Scientists have found that the effect of Climate Change called climate change “the biggest global health threat of the 21st century”. So it is imperative to create Climate change medicine to cope with the impact on public health by global warming climate. This paper lettered the present facts of the worse impacts of climate change. And propose the new concept of setting up Climate change medicine and the strategies of contents, education, application of the Climate change medicine.

Keywords: Climate change; Global warming; Medicine; Public health

The facts of warming global climate and its impact on public health

In 28 July 2016, the UN news report [1]. Warning of a possible rise in heatwave deaths due to climate change, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction called for measures to reduce mortality from this natural hazard. The warning came days that global temperatures for the first six months of this year reached new highs, setting 2016 on track to be the hottest-ever on record, and the temperature hit 54 degrees Celsius in Kuwait last week.

“Millions of people around the world should be receiving heat-related warnings and advisories if we are to avoid a repeat of the thousands of deaths which occurred last year from heatwaves notably in Asia and Europe,” said the UN official.

From 2005 to 2014, an average of 25 major heatwaves were recorded each year resulting in an annual average death toll of 7,232. In 2015, the hottest year on record, there were 3,275 reported deaths from heatwaves in France, 2,248 in India, and 1,229 in Pakistan.

The WHO fact sheet said [2]:

- Climate change affects the social and environmental determinants of health clean air, safe drinking water, sufficient food and secure shelter.
- Between 2030 and 2050, climate change is expected to cause approximately 250,000 additional deaths per year, from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea and heat stress.
- The direct damage costs to health (i.e. excluding costs in health-determining sectors such as agriculture and water and sanitation), is estimated to be between US$ 2-4 billion/year by 2030.
- Areas with weak health infrastructure mostly in developing countries will be the least able to cope without assistance to prepare and respond.
- Reducing emissions of greenhouse gases through better transport, food and energy-use choices can result in improved health, particularly through reduced air pollution.
The World Meteorological Organization reported on 21 July 2016 [3], Global climate breaks new records January to June 2016. Global temperatures for the first six months of this year shattered yet more records, and mean that 2016 is on track to be the world’s hottest year on record.

At 15 July 2016, The UK Committee on Climate Change reported UK Climate Change Risk Assessment 2017 [4]. The key messages are: The greatest direct climate change-related threats for the UK are large increases in flood risk and exposure to high temperatures and heatwaves, shortages in water, substantial risks to UK wildlife and natural ecosystems, risks to domestic and international food production and trade, and from new and emerging pests and diseases.

The impacts of new and emerging pests and diseases are potentially high for otherwise healthy people, animals and plants. The warmer, wetter conditions expected with climate change will allow some pests and diseases to extend their range. Disease outbreaks are difficult to predict, have widespread direct as well as indirect impacts on communities and economies, and are very expensive to manage once established. Though not necessarily caused by climate change, several vector-borne diseases (i.e. diseases spread by insects and ticks) have emerged and expanded in Europe in recent years. These include vivax malaria, West Nile fever, dengue fever, Chikungunya fever, leishmaniosis, Lyme disease (already present in the UK) and tick-borne encephalitis. There is an urgent need for further research to inform government policy and operational measures, such as additional surveillance of emerging pathogens and monitoring of existing problem species. Nationally and internationally there is a need for more research to understand how pest and disease outbreaks can be contained.

It is thought that the other countries on the Earth the Climate Change Risk Assessment may the similar with the UK. Because the climate change is global.

The impact of climate change on public health has been suffered from by the world and noted and alarmed by the international scientists

In 2009, the University College London–Lancet Commission on Managing the Health Effects of Climate Change called climate change “the biggest global health threat of the 21st century” [5]. The 2015 Lancet Commission [6] on Health and Climate Change has been formed to map out the impacts of climate change, and the necessary policy responses, in order to ensure the highest attainable standards of health for populations worldwide. The central finding from the 2015 Commission’s work is that tackling climate change could be the greatest global health opportunity of the 21st century. The central messages from the 2015 Commission are the ten necessary politic and economic policy responses recommended to accelerate action in the next 5 years.

What are the climate change and its impact on health?

Simply to say climate change are natural heat waves and global warming, drought, flooding, water scarcity, extreme weather such as a storm, forest fire, and other hazards, et al. caused by man-made climate environment damages.

The impacts of climate change on public health are divided by directly and indirectly. The directly impacts are through extreme weather, global warming and natural hazards. The indirectly impacts are through climate change caused changes in land use and nutrition, social factors: the distribution of population density resulting from urbanisation, and changes in population demographics relating to ageing, the effects of economic damage, or the impacts of climate change on human security and conflict, and the effects of survival in multiple, interacting ways, the effects of climate change on ecosystems (eg, agricultural losses and changing patterns of disease), economies, and social structure (eg, migration, social grade and conflict, et al.), environment pollution and their health damages, and substantial risks to wildlife and other biology and their natural ecosystems, risks to domestic and international food production and trade, and from new and emerging pests and diseases, et al.

There is no climate change medicine up to now. It is imperative to create Climate change medicine to cope with the impact on public health by global warming climate

In recent years, there have been lots of news reports around the world about the impacts of climate change on health. And call for heat-related warnings and advisories to reduce the bad health effects or even death. But up to now, there has been no system Climate change medicine to cope with the critical effects by climate change. Only can we note the international or national politics and economic policy is proposals and the beginning of applications. So in this paper, the Climate change medicine has been suggested to be created as soon as possible and the contents of the Climate change medicine are proposed.

The contents of the Climate change medicine

The contents of the Climate change medicine should include basic Climate change medicine and clinical climate change medicine.

The basic Climate change medicine includes, but not limited, the reasons of Climate change, physiology of climate change, pathology of climate change, pathophysiology of climate change, pharmacology of climate change, microbiology and immunology of climate change, histopathology of climate change, biochemistry of climate change, molecular biology of climate change, psychology of climate change, diagnostics of climate change, medical imageology of climate change, epidemiology of climate change, hygene of climate change, genetics of climate change, medical environmental sciences, climate science, etc..

While the clinical climate change medicine includes, but not limited, internal medicine of climate change, surgery of climate change, gynecotology of climate change, pediatrics of climate change, neurology of climate change, psychiatry of climate change, ophthalmology of climate change, otorhinolaryngology of climate change, stomatology of climate change, dermatovenerology of climate change, epidemiology and emerging infectious diseases of climate change, preventive medicine of climate change, emergency medicine of climate change, etc..
The education of Climate change medicine and the administration

The students of the Climate change medicine must finish and pass all the subjects of basic Climate change medicine, the clinical Climate change medicine and the other subjects the students of ordinary medicine and the climate change medicine all have to pass.

All the hospitals and community medical centers must set up departments of Climate change medicine. While the national Ministry, province or state and county must set up administration departments of Climate change medicine to cope with and control the diseases of climate change.

The medical researches of Climate change medicine must set up in every subjects to make the Climate change medicine well developed and applied. While the WHO Climate change medicine and the international professional organs should be built to coordinate the well application and development of international Climate change medicine.

It is easy to understand that apart from caring the public health well, creating the system Climate change medicine also can create job chances and speed science and economic development.

References