



ACTION COLLABORATIVE ON DECARBONIZING THE U.S. HEALTH SECTOR

*part of the NAM GRAND CHALLENGE ON
CLIMATE CHANGE, HUMAN HEALTH & EQUITY*

The National Academy of Medicine's (NAM) Action Collaborative on Decarbonizing the U.S. Health Sector (Climate Collaborative) is a public-private partnership of leaders from across the health system committed to addressing the sector's environmental impact while strengthening its sustainability and resilience. Members of the Climate Collaborative represent health and hospital systems, clinicians, private payers, biopharmaceutical and medical device companies, health care services, health professional education, academia, nonprofits, and the federal government.

Climate change is increasingly affecting people's health and the ability of the U.S. health care system to effectively respond to increases in extreme climate-related events. Improving the carbon footprint of the entire health ecosystem can drastically lower the approximately 8.5% of U.S. carbon emissions for which it is responsible, while also having significant health, social, and economic benefits. There is a need to activate all parts of the health sector for sustainable change.

The Climate Collaborative serves as a neutral platform for its participants to align around collective goals and actions for decarbonization, based on evidence, shared solutions, and a commitment to improve health equity. Its work is organized into four streams:

1. Health care supply chain and infrastructure
2. Health care delivery
3. Health professional education and communication
4. Policy, financing, and metrics

The Climate Collaborative is guided by a steering committee, which leads the strategic direction and oversees the core activities of this initiative:

- **Victor Dzau, MD**, Co-Chair | National Academy of Medicine
- **Rachel L. Levine, MD**, Co-Chair | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- **George Barrett, MBA**, Co-Chair | Cardinal Health (former)
- **Andrew Witty**, Co-Chair | UnitedHealth Group
- **Aaron "Ari" Bernstein, MD, MPH** | National Center for Environmental Health, CDC
- **Don Berwick, MD, MPP** | Institute for Healthcare Improvement
- **Colin Cave, MD** | Kaiser Permanente
- **Bechara Choucair, MD** | Kaiser Permanente
- **Gary Cohen** | Health Care Without Harm
- **Chester "Chip" Davis, Jr., JD** | The Healthcare Distribution Alliance
- **Elizabeth "Liz" Fowler, JD** | Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation, U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- **Andrea Garcia, JD, MPH** | American Medical Association
- **Michelle Hood, MHA** | American Hospital Association
- **Beverly Malone, PhD, RN, FAAN** | National League for Nursing
- **Jonathan B. Perlin, MD, PhD** | The Joint Commission
- **Nazneen Rahman, MD, PhD** | AstraZeneca and Sustainable Medicines Partnership
- **David Skorton, MD** | Association of American Medical Colleges
- **Robert ter Kuile** | McKesson
- **Walt Vernon, MBA, JD, LLM** | Mazzetti and Sextant Foundation

About the Grand Challenge on Climate Change and Human Health

The Climate Collaborative is a part of the NAM Grand Challenge on Human Health and Climate Change - a multi-year global initiative to improve and protect human health, well-being, and equity by working to transform systems that both contribute to and are impacted by climate change. Learn more at nam.edu/ClimateChange.

About the National Academy of Medicine

Part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, the NAM is an independent organization of eminent professionals and serves alongside the National Academy of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering as an adviser to the nation and the international community. Through its domestic and global initiatives, and unique ability to assemble the nation's most eminent scholars and experts, the NAM works to address critical issues in health, medicine, and related policy, and inspire positive action across sectors. Learn more at nam.edu.

