

Free CME, CNE, and CEU for Health Professionals

Wildfire Smoke and Your Patients' Health

Wildfires are increasing in size and intensity, a trend that is expected to continue.

Learn about the health effects associated with wildfire smoke and steps patients should take before and during a wildfire to reduce smoke exposure.

Reducing smoke exposure is especially important for people with respiratory or cardiovascular disease, older adults, and children.



www.epa.gov/wildfire-smoke-course

Use the Air Quality Index to know when to reduce exposure.

Good

0-50

Moderate

51-100

Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups

101-150

Unhealthy

151-200

Very Unhealthy

201-300

Hazardous

301+

Effects of Short-Term Smoke Exposure

Irritation of the eyes and respiratory tract

Respiratory symptoms

- Coughing
- Phlegm
- Wheezing
- Difficulty breathing

Respiratory effects

- Bronchitis
- Reduced lung function
- Increased aggravation of asthma and other lung diseases
- Increased emergency room visits and hospital admissions

Cardiovascular effects

- Bronchitis
- Reduced lung function
- Increased aggravation of asthma and other lung diseases
- Increased emergency room visits and hospital admissions

Increased risk of premature death