


Global Health Impact (GHI)

Overview

The increasing severity of climate-based events directly affects health care organizations' operations as they react to these events and face disruptions in care and challenges in patient safety, the actual quality of care, and managing unexpected costs. The repercussions of extreme heat, poor water quality, flooding, wildfires, air pollution, and other unexpected environmental events are making people sicker and escalating the cost of providing care.

The “Global Health Impact” chapter, which was developed in collaboration with the International Hospital Federation's Geneva Sustainability Centre, provides an independent evaluation of health care organizations' efforts to improve their environmental footprint. The chapter aims to advance decarbonization in health care by helping organizations set and maintain goals to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. It is understood that health care organizations vary in their efforts to establish environmental sustainability strategies.

The documentation icon——is used to identify data collection and documentation requirements that are required during the survey.

Standards

The following is a list of all standards for this function. They are presented here for your convenience without their intent statements or measurable elements. For more information about these standards, please see the next section in this chapter, Standards, Intents, and Measurable Elements.

Governance, Tracking, and Reporting

GHI.01.00 Hospital leaders ensure that environmental strategies are formally included and acted on as part of the organization's operations and governance.

Employee Engagement and Empowerment

GHI.02.00 Hospital leaders establish mechanisms to raise awareness and to engage and train employees on climate change and health across the organization.

Use of Environmental Resources, Green Operations, and Process

GHI.03.00 Hospital leaders develop and start to implement a plan to measure and reduce the use of materials and environmental resources, including energy, water, and emissions.

Procurement and Supply Chain

GHI.04.00 Hospital leaders implement actions to reduce the environmental impact of the supply chain across all operations and identify areas to reduce the unnecessary use of supplies within the hospital.

Infrastructure and Service Resilience

GHI.05.00 Hospital leaders assess the environmental risks and scenarios that may affect service delivery, hospital operations, and patient populations, with plans to comply with local emergency preparedness recommendations and rules, including those required by property insurance coverage.