CHILDREN WITH CARDIAC DISEASE AND HEAT EXPOSURE: CATASTROPHIC CONVERGING CONSEQUENCES?

WHAT WE KNOW



Heatwaves are increasing in intensity, frequency and duration





Children are classified as a vulnerable population by WHO



Cardiovascular system plays a crucial role in thermoregulation

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RESEARCH QUESTIONS

How do higher ambient temperatures affect an already compromised cardiovascular system in children with cardiac disease?

What are the implications of exercising in the heat on these children?

WHAT WE FOUND



Children with cardiac disease and lower cardiorespiratory fitness may experience greater heat-related health impacts due circulatory competition in hot environments



<u>UNICEF's</u> latest heat-health policy brief contains vital information for vulnerable populations like children, pregnancy and older adults



There is a concerning lack of experimental clinical research currently being conducted on the link between heat exposure and children

TOP 4 SUGGESTIONS



Health professionals should be aware of the heat-health risks for children with cardiac conditions



PE teachers/kinesiologists are encouraged to adapt physical activities to hot environments



There is an urgent need to conduct more heat-health investigations



Promote health equity globally to adapt to a hotter world

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