



ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS LONDON | 13 - 15 JUNE 2022

# EUROPEAN HEALTHCARE DESIGN

RESEARCH • POLICY • PRACTICE

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### RECOVERY, RENEWAL & REDISCOVERY

PLANNING A CLIMATE-SMART HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

[www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu](http://www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu) | [info@europeanhealthcaredesign.eu](mailto:info@europeanhealthcaredesign.eu)

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# RECOVERY, RENEWAL & REDISCOVERY

## PLANNING A CLIMATE-SMART HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

The climate crisis is a health emergency. And global healthcare systems are uniquely placed to provide leadership across society, leveraging scientific, economic, social and political influence to accelerate a transformation towards a net-zero health sector and wider world.

More than 4.4 per cent of global climate emissions can be attributed to healthcare<sup>1</sup>. As the world emerges from the Covid-19 pandemic – a global public health crisis that has highlighted and deepened existing wounds of health and social inequalities in communities across the world – there are harsh but valuable lessons to learn.

There are also important opportunities to grasp in how we plan for and invest in climate-smart healthcare systems that place health creation, disease prevention, disaster preparedness, and health and social equity to the fore.

As Covid-19 becomes endemic in our daily lives, the centrality of good health and universal healthcare to a more progressive and productive society has never been more evident. The result is a changing role for health systems as they become anchors of prosperity in communities that value health and equality, as well as places that treat disease and do the repairs when we become ill. The nature of the hospital as a building type will also change as its purpose and relationship with the city and the community it serves are redefined.

Health Care Without Harm's 'Global Roadmap for Healthcare Decarbonization'<sup>2</sup> recognises the linkages between decarbonisation, resilience and health equity in a climate-smart healthcare system. It establishes three pathways to net-zero emissions: decarbonisation of healthcare delivery, facilities and operations; decarbonisation of healthcare's supply chain; and acceleration of decarbonisation in the wider economy and society.

National governments that adopt a 'health in all policies' cross-departmental approach, which recognises the inextricable link between human and planetary health, will be vanguards of change, supporting healthcare systems to work with municipal authorities, local businesses, civil society groups, and its own supply chains to establish health ecosystems that: support integrated models of care; provide investment in renewable energy, zero-emissions buildings and digital infrastructure; promote active travel and sustainable transport systems; apply circular economy principles for waste management and water use; and procure locally and sustainably produced food.

### Harnessing the power of science and technology

The race to develop the vaccine demonstrated the inspirational power of science and the efficacy of combining commercial resource, academic research and public funding. Science and technology will be at the heart of a climate-smart transformation, as the convergence of pharma and digital health leads to a new era of personalised medicine. The capacity to understand genomic variation will allow the definition of personal risk profiles, enabling early detection of common diseases and, at the same time, reducing healthcare's climate footprint by targeting treatments to only patients who will benefit.

### Healthy buildings are sustainable buildings

Architecturally, healthcare buildings have often been unhealthy environments for patients and staff. Renewed vigour is needed to create genuinely healthy buildings that aid healing and actively assist staff, based on design strategies that transmute their complex requirements into simple, elegant structures that minimise carbon, maximise adaptability, and digitally migrate activity wherever practicable.

The materials and finishes in healthcare buildings have also often contained high levels of harmful volatile organic compounds (VOCs). We need to change the default settings for interior design, eliminating VOCs and replacing them with healthy low-carbon materials and finishes.

We welcome inspirational examples of all scales of buildings that rediscover the links between the environment and wellbeing. We also welcome examples of innovation in service and architectural design of more complex clinical areas, from the operating room to emergency care, intensive care and imaging suites; and specialist tertiary services, from dementia to mental health and cancer care. Lockdowns helped us rediscover the importance of sunlight, birdsong, physical exercise, air quality and connection to nature. The evidence base for the role that culture, art and music play in healing and to support our wellbeing is undeniable. These humanising aspects should shape our design principles for healthcare buildings.

In low- and middle-income countries where climate change is already impacting significantly on human health, there is an opportunity to leapfrog developed countries by adopting climate-smart solutions in both system design and infrastructure. In these climate-sensitive countries, there are lessons for rich countries to learn in areas such as passive solar heating and cooling strategies, natural and mixed-mode ventilation, building materials, and reduced water consumption.

A climate-smart healthcare sector requires silo thinking to be displaced by system-level strategies to health planning and design, which understand the relationships and interdependence of different components of the healthcare ecosystem, from clinical service design to workforce planning and infrastructure investment to how healthcare relates to the city and the communities it supports.

We're delighted to invite you to contribute to the exchange of knowledge needed to transform to a climate-smart healthcare system by submitting abstracts by 8 December 2021.



**JOHN COOPER**  
Past Chair  
Architects for Health



**MARC SANSOM**  
Director  
SALUS Global Knowledge  
Exchange

<sup>1</sup> Health Care without Harm and ARUP (2019). Health care's climate footprint. How the health sector contributes to the global climate crisis and opportunities for action. Accessed at <https://noharm-global.org/documents/health-care-climate-footprint-report>

<sup>2</sup> Health Care without Harm and ARUP (2021). Global Roadmap for Health Care Decarbonization. A navigational tool for achieving zero emissions with climate resilience and health clarity. Accessed at [healthcareclimateaction.org/roadmap](https://healthcareclimateaction.org/roadmap)

# CALL FOR PAPERS

The 8th European Healthcare Design 2022 Congress (EHD 2022) is dedicated to the global exchange of knowledge on the relationship between research, practice and policy in the design and planning of health systems, services, technology, workforce and infrastructure. The Congress is scheduled to be held 'in person' at the Royal College of Physicians, on 13-15 June and streamed online on SALUS TV to enable virtual participation.

Congress attendees will develop their knowledge of the political, social, economic and environmental context; emerging practice, skills and core competencies in designing and planning health services, technology and infrastructure; project management; and the evidence base for healthcare design, sustainable development and quality improvement. We are delighted to invite you to submit abstracts on the following core themes.

## Congress streams

- **Health planning and investment:** New models of care that promote quality improvement and strengthen health system resilience
- **The intersection of clinical medicine and design:** Optimising environments and spaces to support clinical service planning strategies
- **Science, technology & digital transformation:** System-level adoption of digital health, AI, personalised medicine and smart hospital innovations
- **Climate-smart healthcare:** Applying circular economy principles and net-zero carbon strategies to services, infrastructure and supply chains
- **Art & architecture:** Humanistic environments that promote wellbeing, identity and dignity, support recovery, and empower patients
- **Tertiary care:** Planning specialist services and infrastructure, including mental health services, cancer care, women and children, and rehabilitation
- **Global health exemplars:** Case studies of co-development and climate-smart healthcare in low- and middle-income countries

Authors are invited to submit abstracts of 400 words in English for any of the following: a) themed paper; b) poster; c) workshop. The abstract should clearly state the background, purpose, methods, results and any of the following: a) themed paper; b) poster; c) workshop. The abstract should clearly state the background, purpose, methods, results and conclusions/implications. Presentations in all three formats can be focused on any of research, practice or theory. For more detailed abstract guidelines, visit [www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu](http://www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu).

Papers addressing more than one of the Congress themes will be given preference. All abstracts will be subject to a rigorous blind peer-review process by the EHD 2022 Programme Committee. A carefully selected number will be chosen for oral presentation with a wider number presented in poster format accompanied by a pre-recorded video talk.

Proposals must be submitted using the abstract proposal form, available at [www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu](http://www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu) and MUST include the following details: a) presentation type (themed paper, poster or workshop); b) knowledge focus (research, practice or theory); c) congress theme (choice of three out of seven streams in order of preference); d) title; e) author(s); f) organisational affiliation; and g) three keywords.

The abstracts of the papers chosen for presentation will be published online. Videos of the talks and written papers, and digital versions of the posters with the accompanying pre-recorded video talk will be published online at [www.salus.global](http://www.salus.global). Presenters are expected to gain consent for video reproduction and digital dissemination of any material they present. Please note: the author(s) and/or co-author(s) are required to register and pay the registration fee to participate and present the paper at the Congress. Speakers will be encouraged to present 'in person', depending on international travel restrictions. The official language of EHD 2022 is English.

More information on the conference venue, hotel accommodation and registration fee will be available at [www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu](http://www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu) in December 2021.

All abstracts should be submitted at: [www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu](http://www.europeanhealthcaredesign.eu). All enquiries should be sent by e-mail to the EHD 2022 Secretariat at: **E: [info@europeanhealthcaredesign.eu](mailto:info@europeanhealthcaredesign.eu) Tel: + 44 (0)1277 634176**

## Who should submit a paper and attend?

The European Healthcare Design Congress, Awards & Exhibition attracts the world's leading interdisciplinary thinkers, researchers and practitioners in the field including:

- Physicians
- Healthcare executives
- Estates/capital development
- Nursing professionals
- Commissioners
- Health scientists
- Service designers
- Clinical managers
- Architects and designers
- Engineers and developers
- Health planners
- Occupational therapists
- Psychologists
- Economists

# PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE

## October 2021

Announcement of Call for Papers

## November 2021

Announcement of Call for Entries for EHD Awards 2022

## 8 December 2021

Deadline for EHD 2022 Congress abstracts

## February 2022

Launch of the Preliminary Programme  
Deadline for EHD 2022 Awards submissions

## April 2022

Deadline for speaker and Early Bird registration

## May 2022

EHD 2022 Live Virtual Awards Judging  
Deadline for full paper manuscripts

## Monday 13 June 2022

09.00–18.00: EHD 2022 Congress & Exhibition  
18.00–20.00 Welcome drinks reception

## Tuesday 14 June 2022

09.00–18.00: EHD 2022 Congress, Exhibition and Awards  
18.00–22.00: Garden Party

## Wednesday 15 June 2022

09.00–19.00: Study visits to UK health facilities (to be advised)

Cover credits (clockwise from top left): Puntukurnu AMS Healthcare Hub, Australia, designed by Kaunitz Yeung Architecture; Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) Phase 1C Redevelopment, Canada, designed by Stantec Architecture; Hospital Sancta Maggiore Morumbi, Brazil; Designed by Perkins&Will  
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# THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS LONDON 11-15 JUNE 2022

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RESEARCH • POLICY • PRACTICE



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**Kate Copeland**, chair, Australian Health Design Council

**Jim Chapman**, visiting professor, Manchester School of  
Architecture

**Alessandro Caruso**, director, Design in Mental Health Network

For further enquiries on the event programme, sponsorship or  
exhibition opportunities, contact:

**SALUS Global Knowledge Exchange**

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