



PEER REVIEW

Chaturvedi, S. (2020). The Bushfires Down Under: A Medical Emergency Now and Later. *SUSHRUTA Journal of Health Policy & Opinions*, 13(2). DOI: 10.38192/13.2.2

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Recommendations

Accept with minor revisions

Recommendations to the Authors

Subject is very interesting and very relevant.

The article covers the spectrum of health effects including physical and mental health effects as well as action that has been taken by government and healthcare providers. Background to the bushfires was well laid out in the beginning of the article (eg bushfires being part of natural life cycle).

The specific link of these extreme bushfires to climate change could be more fleshed out (is it increased temperatures, or lack of rainfall in summer months that contributed to extremeness of the bushfires seen this past year?)

Is this a pattern that has been seen in other parts of the world? The article also opens up several more questions including:

- Might it be possible to compare responses from these different affected areas?
- Is it projected that we will continue to see an increase in these extreme bushfire events and over what period of time might action against climate change result in a reduction of such events?