

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Elan Justice Pavlinich, epavlinich@environmentalhealthproject.org, 412-447-1887

Oil and gas toolkit empowers health care providers to protect patient health

Training session and digital resources educate health professionals about the impacts of shale gas development on patient health.

PITTSBURGH, PA, September 16, 2025 – A free virtual tutorial of the [Health Professional Toolkit](#) on Oil and Gas is open for registration. The [Environmental Health Project](#) (EHP), along with [Cancer & Environment Network of Southwestern PA](#) (CENSWPA), and [Cancer Bridges](#) invite health care professionals to attend online Thursday, September 25, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. [Registration](#) is open.

“Environmental factors are often overlooked by health professionals when assessing common medical problems or general, nonspecific symptoms, and so they are not included in the differential diagnosis,” says Dr. Ned Ketyer, EHP Medical Advisor, who will present the toolkit at this event. The last few decades have seen an oil and gas development boom across the U.S., with the addition of an estimated [1.3 million oil and gas facilities](#)—active production wells, gas compressor stations, processing plants—not to mention plans for gas-fired data centers. Approximately [17.3 million people live within one-half mile](#) of an oil and gas facility. Many, especially those in underserved and underrepresented communities, live near multiple sources of emissions. Nearly 3 million children attend school within a half-mile of these facilities. Against this backdrop of industry, the risk that people are being exposed to toxic chemicals is greatly intensified, representing a public health crisis that needs to be addressed.

To that end, EHP is presenting the toolkit to health professionals interested in learning about the harms associated with shale gas development (SGD) and how this heavy industry may impact the physical and mental health of patients and clients. Ketyer explains, “I’m excited to show physicians, nurses, and other providers how EHP’s Health Professional Toolkit provides up-to-date information and research about shale gas development (fracking) and its impact on patient and community health.”

Additionally, EHP is pleased to offer physicians and other health professionals the opportunity to receive a continuing education certificate for reviewing the toolkit through the Pennsylvania Medical Society’s online learning center.

About the Environmental Health Project

The [Environmental Health Project](#) (EHP) is a nonpartisan, nonprofit public health organization that defends public health in the face of shale gas development. EHP provides frontline communities with timely monitoring, interpretation, and guidance while engaging diverse stakeholders: health professionals, researchers, community organizers, policy makers, and others.

###