

6 Core Sustainability Topics

1) Operating Room (OR)

- Ophthalmology has the highest procedural volume of any specialty, expected 50 million cataract surgeries yearly by 2050

2) Drug Waste

- Medications in the operating room represent an estimated at \$560 million in waste annually

3) Sustainable Clinic

- Ophthalmology specific action steps for greening offices and clinics (in collaboration with My Green Doctor Foundation)

4) Industry Initiatives

- Partnership with large manufacturers to reducing packaging, make instruments reusable, and streamline the manufacturing and distribution process

5) Global Initiatives

- Aravind Eye Care System's low-carbon model in India: alternate energy sources, transport, infrastructure, and equipment maintenance

6) Health Impacts of Climate Change

- Effects of climate change on incidence of ocular conditions, including cataracts, allergic disease, glaucoma, and more



Sustainability in Ophthalmology: Student Advocacy

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Our Mission:

Engage, network, and educate our global ophthalmic community about more sustainable practices

Collaborate with industry to reduce our carbon footprint and surgical waste

Support **research** and innovative solutions that reduce ophthalmology's environmental impact

Support **advocacy and education** about the public health impact of climate change

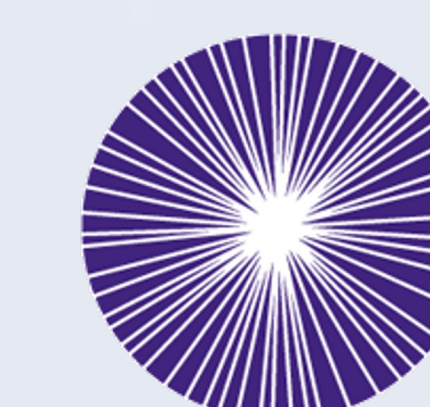


Visit our website to learn more:

Impact to Date

- **Chang and Thiel (2020) survey** of cataract surgeons and nurses attitudes towards OR waste
 - 93% of respondents felt OR trash was excessive and we should seek approaches to reduce waste
- **Carbon Footprint Calculator: Zasti** to track facility emissions
- **OR Sustainability Pledge**
 - Pledge completed by Ambulatory Surgical Centers / Hospital Outpatient Departments from 9 different countries to date
- **Ongoing Projects**
 - OR Toolkit: How to educate surgeons and surgical staff about sustainability and the impact of OR waste
 - Water consumption in operating rooms
 - Evaluation of flash sterilization associated with cataract surgery

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