

Dear esteemed colleagues,

As you are likely aware, climate change represents the most significant health threat of our century, with the healthcare sector contributing notably to this issue. Globally, the healthcare sector accounts for over 4% of the carbon footprint.

These numbers are deeply concerning, and we, as clinicians, must take action. To address this, a Dutch research group, led by Prof. Dr. Nicole Bouvy, has developed the CAREFREE-project. This initiative aims to create more sustainable operating rooms. As part of the CAREFREE-project, we are currently mapping international practices regarding the use of reusable and disposable materials in surgery. To achieve this, we have developed an international survey.

We are reaching out to request your assistance with this survey. It would be greatly appreciated if as many surgeons and surgical trainees as possible from around the world could complete it. Therefore, I kindly ask if you could distribute this survey among your esteemed members by sending an email, posting it on your website, or sharing it via your social media accounts (e.g., X, Facebook, etc.).

If your organization is not the appropriate target group for distributing this questionnaire regarding surgical practices, it would still be immensely valuable if you could provide information on which organization within your country or region would be the best point of contact.

The survey takes only 5-10 minutes to complete. We have attached a template that you could share with others if you are willing to assist our team.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation! Please let us know if you have any questions or need further information.

On behalf of,

Prof. Dr. Nicole Bouvy, Surgeon, Maastricht UMC+

Dr. Philip de Reuver, Surgeon, Radboudumc

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