

Klimakosten im Gesundheitswesen – eine massiv unterschätzte Folge der Erderwärmung

Prof. Dr. Lint Barrage, Ökonomin am Departement Management, Technologie und Ökonomie der ETH Zürich, Leiterin der Gruppe Energie- und Klimawirtschaft.

This presentation summarizes recent research on the healthcare cost impacts of global warming and contextualizes these findings within our broader understanding of the economic consequences of climate change. First, we review standard approaches used by economists and policymakers to quantify the economic impacts of carbon emissions, assessing the extent to which these methods account for health and healthcare-related effects. Second, we summarize some recent research on the healthcare costs associated with climatic events and long-term climate change, along with their broader economic consequences. We discuss the methodological challenges in extrapolating short-term estimates from extreme outcomes to the long-run effects of a warming climate, and share some new estimates suggesting that prior work has significantly underestimated climate damages by omitting healthcare costs. Finally, we highlight recent findings on the critical role of healthcare services availability in mitigating the mortality impacts of climate change.

Lint Barrage is Associate Professor and leads the Chair of Energy and Climate Economics at ETH Zurich. Her research focuses on integrated climate-macroeconomic analysis, policy design, and innovation in the energy sector. She served as author on the 5th US National Climate Assessment, serves as Editor at the Journal of Political Economy – Microeconomics. She received a BA in Economics and Environmental Studies from the University of Chicago and her MA, MPhil, and PhD in Economics from Yale University.