

OCTOBER 16-18, 2014  
THE SENTINEL HOTEL, PORTLAND, OR

## SESSION DETAILS

Session #: 218

Title: The Modern Black Death: Coal, Global Warming & Mercury - What It Means for You & Your Patients

Speaker: Martin Donohoe, MD, FACP

Date: Friday, October 17

Time: 5:15-6:30 p.m.

CE Contact Hours: 1.25

Pharmacology Hours: 0.16

## SESSION DESCRIPTION

This sessions describes the specific health risks associated with global warming and mercury. I will review 1) the numerous contributors and the myriad health and environmental consequences of global warming; and 2) the health effects of mercury on adults, pregnant women, and the developing embryo/fetus (and show some of the award-winning photos of Minamata Disease taken by W Eugene Smith). I will explain how practitioners can recognize these health effects and what preventive measures they might advise for their patients. I will also discuss coal companies' proposals to send 100 million tons of coal per year through the Pacific Northwest on trains and barges, then on to Asia, where it will burn in power plants. There are numerous health risks associated with their plans. I will present suggestions for those wishing to become more involved in combating these plans and influencing energy policies, both locally and nationally.

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this session, the learner will be able to:

1. Describe the risks to human health and the environment of global warming and mercury.
2. Discuss how coal burning enhances these risks.
3. Describe current proposals to dramatically increase coal transport through Oregon.

## DISCLOSURES

Conflict of Interest for Planners & Presenter:

- The planners of this CNE activity declare no conflicts of interest in the development and implementation of this educational activity.
- This presenter declares no conflict of interest. As faculty/presenter for this activity, presenter attests that they will provide the best available evidence for this content and present information fairly and without bias.