Climate Change and Energy Production: The Case of Hydraulic Fracturing and Perinatal Health

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121 S. Main St., Room 375

Abstract: Unsustainable resource use has led to climate change. Much of my work has relied on spatial data to study the relationship between unsustainable fossil fuel extraction activities (i.e., natural gas fracking) and use (i.e., coal power plants) and health outcomes during the perinatal period. I will discuss a recent study that relied on electronic health record data in Pennsylvania to evaluate the association between natural gas fracking and adverse birth outcomes. The study results revealed an increased odds of preterm birth among women most exposed to natural gas fracking activities. I will conclude with a discussion of environmental justice and policy implications as well as a summary of future directions.

For further information, please call 401.863.2918 or email Epidemiology@brown.edu