

INTRODUCTION TO GREEN IMPACT FOR HEALTH TOOLKIT

Providing healthcare doesn't need to cost the Earth!

This script is designed to accompany a training session on the Green Impact for Health (GIFH) Toolkit. The resources include tools for delivery: a slide deck and a script to run your own training on the GIFH Toolkit.

Project team

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Credit

This script design is based on the #TalkingClimate workshop script developed by Climate Outreach.

Terms of usage

This script and accompanying resources are freely available for anyone interested in running their own teaching session on the Green Impact for Health Toolkit.

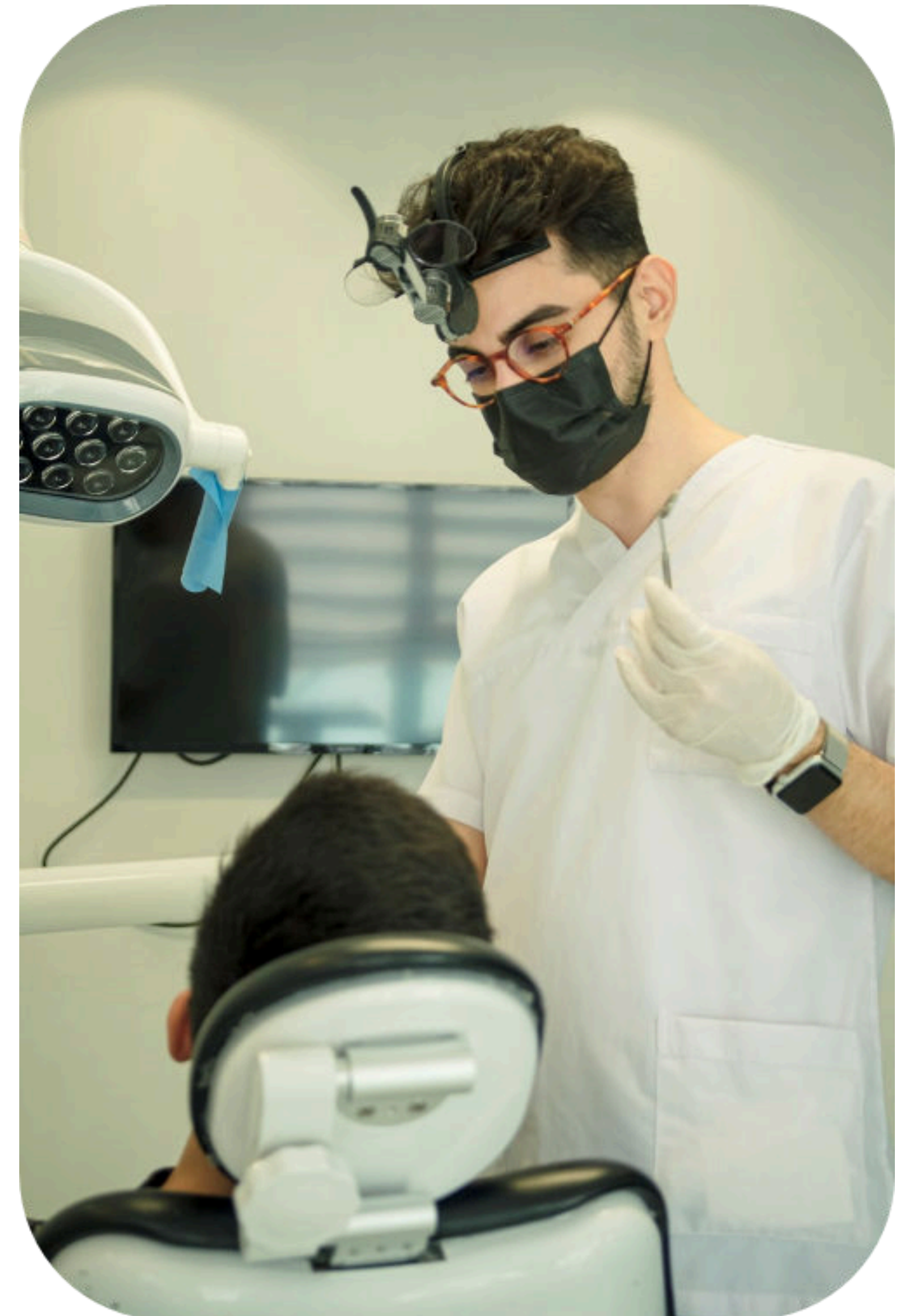
Permission to use these resources to deliver training sessions is for non-profit use only.

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The logo for Green Impact, featuring the words "green" in green and "impact" in white, set against a dark blue background with a green border.

WHAT IS GREEN IMPACT?

- Green Impact is a United Nations award-winning programme designed to support environmentally and socially sustainable practice in your organisation.
- More than 1,500 organisations have used Green Impact, reaching more than 275,000 people in seven countries.
- Green Impact helps teams within organisations build new relationships, breaking staff out of their silos and building a community of sustainability champions.
- Green Impact is delivered by SOS-UK, an educational charity. As a charity, all of their work is not-for-profit.



SESSION DETAILS

- Aimed to be 30 minutes
- This session is designed for an audience of healthcare professionals, sustainability leads, practice managers, or anyone working in general practice service provision who may benefit from using the toolkit.
- The purpose is to introduce and explain the Green Impact for Health Toolkit - a free, practical, and action-oriented platform designed to support sustainability in healthcare settings.
- By the end of the session, attendees should:
 - Understand why sustainability in healthcare matters
 - Know what the toolkit is and how to use it
 - Be aware of how to access toolkit and submission deadlines
- Session Style:
 - Informative, encouraging, and practical
 - Emphasise small, achievable actions
 - Invite questions and engagement at the end
- Technical Notes:
 - This script is designed to work alongside the slide deck provided
 - Feel free to add in local examples or personal experiences where appropriate to make the content more relatable

THE SCRIPT

Facilitator Activity	Script	Suggested running time (mins)	Total time passed (mins)
<p>Slide 1: Title Page</p> <p>Welcome everyone and explain housekeeping rules eg. turn off mics when not speaking, put virtual hand up when you have a question.</p>	<p>Welcome and thank you for joining us during this session. Today, we're introducing the Green Impact for Health Toolkit - a vital resource designed to help healthcare professionals make their work more sustainable.</p> <p>Green Impact for Health is delivered by Students Organising for Sustainability (SOS-UK) and general practice volunteers led by Dr Terry Kemple. Providing healthcare doesn't need to cost the Earth, and this toolkit equips you with practical actions and guidance to reduce the environmental impact of your work while maintaining or even improving patient care.</p> <p>Let's explore how we can integrate sustainability into every part of healthcare delivery.</p>	3	3
<p>Slide 2: Overview</p>	<p>Let me start with a quick overview of what we'll be covering today:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Firstly we'll be providing a brief snapshot of the link between health and climate 2. We'll explain what the Green Impact for Health Toolkit is and how to use the platform 3. Share the intended outcomes of Green Impact 4. Then we'll give practical examples of using the toolkit with easy duplication in your workplace 5. And finally, share how your practice can gain recognition for positive change, and how submission deadlines work 	2	5

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Slide 3: Climate and Health	<p>Working in healthcare, the question may be, why do we need to be thinking about climate? But we know that climate change isn't just an environmental issue- it's a health emergency, too. Rising temperatures, poor air quality, extreme weather events, and changes in disease patterns are already affecting the health of our communities.</p> <p>WHO has described climate change as the biggest global challenge for human health. As people working within healthcare professionals, we see the impact first-hand, from respiratory conditions to heat-related illnesses and mental health challenges. Recognizing this link helps us see why action on climate is not optional—it's part of our duty to protect health.</p> <p>The NHS contributes to 4-5% of the total emissions in the UK, with primary care amounting to 23%. This presents as a massive opportunity to make positive change. 60% of carbon emissions in primary care coming from medical equipment and medicines, with 22% being attributed to meter-dose inhalers alone. We have the skills and knowledge to help support a green transition in healthcare provision that looks after our staff, patients and planet.</p>	3	8
Slide 4: Green Impact for Health Toolkit	<p>To get an idea of scale, approximately 90% of healthcare visits in the UK are in primary care, and in December 2024, the average number of patients seen in general practice per working day was 1.42million people [please update to most recent figures when you present].</p> <p>There are an estimated 6500 general practices in England and over a quarter have signed up to the Green Impact for Health Toolkit. It is a free, practical, and user-friendly platform developed specifically for general practices and primary care teams.</p>	3	12

Facilitator Activity	Script	Suggested running time (mins)	Total time passed (mins)
Slide 4 continued:	The toolkit offers a structured set of actions you can take to reduce your environmental footprint while also improving patient care and staff wellbeing. Whether you're just starting out or already working on sustainability, the toolkit meets you where you are and guides you forward.		
Slide 5: GIFH Toolkit Platform	<p>The Green Impact for Health covers different areas of sustainability and social responsibility with over 125 actions included. Each action is listed on the site relating to different themes, including energy saving, social prescribing and news and communication.</p> <p>The actions within the toolkit have been developed in collaboration with stakeholders from across the sector, and are informed by the latest research. You can work through the actions in any order based on your sustainability priorities. The actions are designed to meaningfully support the sustainability of your team, practice, and the wider community.</p>	3	15
Slide 6: Benefits of GIFH Toolkit	<p>Some of the benefits from using the toolkit are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice staff are better informed about sustainability and how primary care, and particularly general practice, can be make a significant positive impact. • It draws likeminded people together from all areas, including staff, patients and communities to take action and drive change together. • Making changes that improve both public health and the environment, such as reducing air pollution and encouraging active lifestyles. • Practices gain recognition for their hard-earned efforts, boosting their morale and highlighting leadership in the community. • Sustainability efforts help reduce carbon and cut costs, while improving practice efficiency. 	3	18

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Slide 7: Starting the Journey	<p>To begin using the Green Impact for Health Toolkit, the first thing you'll need to do is register your team on the website. When choosing a team name, be sure to include your town or location - this helps others easily identify your practice.</p> <p>Each team should represent one practice site, and please note that each email address can only be linked to one team. If you're involved with more than one site and need access to multiple teams, please reach out the email listed here for further information.</p> <p>Once your team is set up, you can invite others in your practice to get involved. There's no limit – anyone who's interested can register and join your team to help complete actions and share ideas.</p>	2	20
Slide 8: How the Toolkit Works	<p>Everyone who joins your team will have access to the same toolkit and can see how you're progressing. This makes it easy to collaborate, share the workload, and assign different actions to different people.</p> <p>You can also use the filters at the top of the page to quickly find the actions that are most relevant to your practice.</p>	2	22
Slide 9: Example Action	<p>Each task you complete earns points that add up and show how far you've come. The points also indicate how challenging the task is, with award levels as a guide.</p> <p>You're free to complete tasks in any order you choose. When you've finished one, just leave a comment explaining what you did, upload any supporting evidence like photos or documents, and then hit the 'done' button to save your progress.</p>	2	24

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Slide 12: Awards and Timeline	<p>If your team chooses to apply for an award, certificates range from Pioneer to Diamond, depending on the actions you've completed, evidenced, and the amounting points tally.</p> <p>You can work through the toolkit at your own pace, but if you're aiming for an award, make sure everything is submitted with evidence by the end of September.</p> <p>SOS-UK are happy to provide ongoing support to help you along the way, and student auditors will review submissions to confirm the final award levels. And don't worry - it doesn't have to take up loads of time. Some teams chip away at it regularly, while others sit down once or twice a year to update everything. Both approaches work!</p>	2	26
Slide 13: Thank you!	<p>The Green Impact for Health Toolkit empowers us to take real, impactful action against climate change right from our clinics and practices. Let's lead the way in making healthcare part of the solution. Thank you for your time and attention! If you have any questions, please feel free to now raise your hand or ask in the chat.</p>	3	29
Slide 14: General Enquiries	<p>If you'd like to get in touch, please feel free to reach out to Terry, or you can read more on the website listed here. Thanks again!</p>	1	30