



November 06, 2019

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Shaheen:

Thank you for your recent letter to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) regarding outreach to medical professionals in communities facing exposures to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and the development of medical monitoring protocols. CDC and ATSDR understand that many community members will turn to their healthcare providers for guidance on how to interpret their exposures to PFAS and agree that clinicians should have the information they need to address these concerns.

CDC and ATSDR are in the process of revising our Guidance for Clinicians Fact Sheet, a document available on our website that provides guidance to aid physicians and other clinicians with patient consultations on PFAS exposures. It highlights what PFAS are, identifies health effects associated with exposure to various PFAS, and suggests answers to specific patient questions about potential PFAS exposure. CDC and ATSDR plan to share information with communities across the nation, including those taking part in CDC and ATSDR's PFAS studies.

CDC and ATSDR are also planning extensive clinician outreach in communities that are participating in exposure assessments and health studies. CDC and ATSDR will develop and disseminate messages for healthcare providers in participating communities to make them aware of the resources available to them. We will also conduct Grand Rounds for clinicians in participating communities, to help disseminate information to providers and allow them a forum to ask questions about how to address their patients' concerns. Additionally, CDC and ATSDR are reaching out to clinical professional groups to explore opportunities to address community concerns regarding medical monitoring.

Thank you again for your work on behalf of citizens facing PFAS exposure. Please also be advised that CDC and ATSDR can provide updates to you as we develop more resources for clinicians in communities facing PFAS exposure. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact Peggine Rice in the CDC Office of Appropriations at PRice@cdc.gov or (202) 245-0600.

Sincerely,

Robert R. Redfield, MD
Director, CDC