

Mock Oral Exam Question

Public Health Matters – Issue 2 Jan 2016

An original mock oral exam question for studying for the PHPM Royal College Exam, written by Dr. Thomas Piggott (PGY2 McMaster).

Stem:

You are working as the environmental public health expert for a provincial public health organization in Canada. There was recently air quality testing done by an environmental 'watchdog', *Community Climate*, nearby a natural gas processing facility in one of your regions. The levels demonstrated increased levels of methane gas at 300 parts per million by volume; nearly 300 times average ambient concentrations of methane. *Community Climate* has made a demand that the processing facility be shut down immediately. You are responding to a media request by a local newspaper.

Question (this is a role-play question):

Thanks for making the time to talk with us doctor; we have a few questions for you about the methane emissions discovered by *Community Climate*.

Part A – What is methane gas, and what are its sources?

Part B – What are the health impacts of methane gas?

Part C – What actions will you take?

Responses:

Post your thoughts on the responses to the Facebook Group for discussion:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/163597833701953/>