Summary of Heat/Wildfire Smoke Public Comment Suggestions

Background:

* Adjustments to some of the phrasing of the evidence presented in the background
* redlining -> historical redlining
* updated ordering of populations at risk to call higher attention to people with difficulty maintaining safe indoor temperatures

State Agencies

* consider heat pumps in addition to or instead of air conditioners
* clinician education topic – identify patients that are particularly vulnerable to heat illness or wildfire smoke exposure and how to educate vulnerable patients about their particular risk, how to stay safe, and get help early with sx

Health Plans

* health plans should point their members to monitor the temp and air quality in their area through publicly available alerts
* internal list of members at higher risk for heat illness or wildfire smoke exposure
* consider promoting equipment as an employer benefit not part of plan coverage itself
* consider heat pumps in general in addition to air conditioners

Health Delivery System

* wrote out specific recommendations for how to “include an equity lens” in evaluations
* in addition to cooling centers, plan for home refuge

Employers

* consider heat pumps in addition to air conditioners

EMS

* increase capacity for evaporative cooling during transport instead of before transport

Schools

* monitor indoor air quality,
* shading over play structures,
* air conditioning/air purification,
* protocols for temperature and air quality to keep students safe from exposure,
* protect student athletes from harmful exposure

Evidence Review

* updates to the Evidence Review for AQI based on feedback from wildfire smoke

Minor Updates

* Change pregnant women -> pregnant people
* Added EPA training on wildfire smoke and health to the list
* updated the ICD-10 table so it doesn’t turn into symbols