

VIRTUAL CARE CARBON ACCOUNTING TOOL

Preview

A4 DATA INPUTS (PLEASE COMPLETE)

CASCADES
Climate Action + Healthcare

VIRTUAL CARE CARBON ACCOUNTING TOOL

This tool will calculate:

1. The total carbon emissions saved from patient travel averted to and from your facility (in metric tonnes of CO₂e)
2. The cost savings to patients from patient travel averted to and from your facility, including the cost of transit fare, gas, insurance, vehicle wear and tear, and parking (in Canadian dollars)
3. The total carbon and financial costs of in-person patient visits to and from your facility (in metric tonnes of CO₂e)
4. The carbon and cost savings associated with virtual visits at various percentages of total visits (forecasting)



To use this tool, you need the following information for any given period:

1. Number of virtual visits
2. Number of in-person visits (optional)
3. Your facility's forward sortation area (FSA) or postal code
- 4a. Total KM of travel averted by patients who had virtual visits ("Total KM saved")
OR
- 4b. The forward sortation area (FSA) or postal codes of the patients who had virtual visits
5. Parking rates (low-end, high-end, or average) (optional)

Green cells indicate data inputs and outputs related to virtual visits
Yellow cells indicate data inputs and outputs related to in-person

DATA INPUTS (PLEASE COMPLETE)

(Note: Some inputs must be entered **manually**; others are **automatically** generated based on other inputs; others are already inputted as **default** values. Automatic and default inputs can be manually modified.)

Metric	Value	Instructions	Assumptions/Limitations
Virtual visit volumes (manual input)	0	Input the total number of virtual visits for the time frame in question in cell B6.	None. Extract this figure from your EMR or other database.
In-person visit volumes (manual input)	0	Input the total number of in-person visits for the time frame in question in cell B7.	None. Extract this figure from your EMR or other database.
Total visit volumes (automatic if B6 and B7 inputs)	0	Automatic - Value includes virtual and in-person visits for the time frame in question in cell B8.	Calculation based on inputs for virtual and in-person visits
Total KM saved (virtual) (automatic if you use the FSA or Postal Code Input sheet) (manual input if you elect to calculate distance using another method)	6,237	Input total patient travel averted by virtual visits for the time frame in question in cell B9 - this will be the distance between the FSA for your site, and the FSA/postal codes of all patients who had virtual visits multiplied by two (for a round-trip distance). If you already have this figure, enter it in cell B9. If you do not have this figure, click the icon below: 	The Travel Averted Calculator accessible via the "FSA or postal code input" icon maps distance as a straight line between patient and facility FSA using longitude and latitude. This distance is not as accurate as mapping actual travel distance over a road network, but it is significantly easier to calculate without relying on costly and lengthy external data processing, and offers a more conservative estimate of carbon savings. It is assumed that patients would have travelled from their residing address directly to the facility and directly home afterwards. Combined trips are therefore not accounted for.
Total KM (in-person) (automatic if you use the FSA or Postal Code Input sheet) (manual input if you elect to calculate distance using another method)		Input total patient travel for in-person visits for the time frame in question in cell B9 - this will be the distance between the FSA for your site, and the FSA/postal codes of all patients who had virtual visits multiplied by two (for a round-trip distance). If you already have this figure, enter it in cell B10. If you do not have this figure, click the icon below: 	The Travel Averted Calculator accessible via the "FSA or postal code input" icon maps distance as a straight line between patient and facility FSA using longitude and latitude. This distance is not as accurate as mapping actual travel distance over a road network, but it is significantly easier to calculate without relying on costly and lengthy external data processing, and offers a more conservative estimate of carbon savings. It is assumed that patients would have travelled from their residing address directly to the facility and directly home afterwards. Combined trips are therefore not accounted for.

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