



NATIONAL HEALTH COUNCIL

## **Interpreting NHC Fair-Market Value (FMV) Calculator Results**

The NHC Fair-Market Value (FMV) Calculator is a tool to assist your organization in identifying appropriate compensation for a patient, caregiver, or advocacy organization to participate in a patient engagement activity. The compensation rates are based on a wide variety of data inputs, as described in our [“FMV Hourly Rate Methodology”](#) document. Since patient engagement is an evolving field and the Calculator is intended to accommodate engagement activities for a broad range of stakeholders, needs, geographic regions, and other factors; the output is presented as a range – not one exact number.

This document describes some of the factors you may wish to consider as you are determining the specific FMV rate for a specific engagement activity from the offered range.

### **Considerations to Interpreting FMV Compensation Results**

Issues you will want to consider in making choices *within an FMV range* include:

- Risk of liability (e.g., legal or financial) or stress from participating in engagement (e.g., member of a Data and Safety Monitoring Board)
- Wages lost (e.g., time off of work for hourly workers who might not otherwise participate and might impact the representative recruitment of a target population) and should be considered on a case by case basis
- Special caregiving accommodations needed for a dependent (e.g., childcare, eldercare, or other)
- Size of patient organization (e.g., very large organizations may have more staff with more staffing layers at a wide range of salary levels)
- Urgency (e.g., a very short time to prepare, create something, or complete a deadline for an activity)
- Geographic location (e.g., cost of living is much higher/lower)

In alignment with our “Principles for Compensating for Patient Engagement Activities”, compensation should not differ largely for participants with the same expertise performing the same activity in the same location.

### **Considerations for FMV Travel Reimbursement**

The individual being engaged may have additional requirements that make travel (and thus travel reimbursement) more complex, for example:

- A care partner or family member must accompany them for health reasons
- A service animal must accompany them
- Additional travel time is needed due to health accommodations
- Accompanying medical equipment is required
- Special dietary requirements must be met