

Supplementary material

An example of a basic carbon footprint calculation

As a basic example, let's calculate the carbon footprint of a face-to-face outpatient clinic appointment. The boundaries will include travel to and from the clinic and the outpatient clinic appointment. It will be assumed that the patient travelled alone, using a medium sized petrol car and that they made a return journey. The distance travelled (in miles) will be calculated from the shortest geographical route acquired from Google maps. The emissions factors are obtained from the UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting database⁵. Use of consumables during the appointment such as blood taking equipment and personal protective equipment will be excluded.

- Distance (miles) between home postcode and hospital postcode = 13 miles.
- Return journey = 26 miles.
- The conversion factor for driving one mile in a medium size petrol car = 0.29724 total kg CO₂e per unit (mile).
- CO₂e for journey: $13 \times 0.29724 = 3.86$ kg CO₂e
- Single outpatient appointment = 23 kg CO₂e (17)
- Travel + appointment = **26.86 kg CO₂e**