



National Health Council

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Member Benefits

Founded in 1920, the National Health Council (NHC) is the only organization that brings together all segments of the health community to provide a united voice for the more than 160 million people with chronic diseases and disabilities and their family caregivers. Made up of more than 120 diverse national health-related organizations and businesses, the NHC's core membership includes the nation's leading patient advocacy organizations, which control its governance and policy-making process. Other members include professional and membership associations; nonprofit organizations with an interest in health; and representatives from the pharmaceutical, generic drug, health insurance, device, and biotechnology industries.

We envision a society in which all people have access to quality health care that respects personal goals and aspirations and is designed around the patient experience to promote their best possible health outcomes.

Influence Policy: Strengthen your voice in Washington on systemic health issues that affect all patients – such as improving access to care, advancing the creation of new treatments, and reducing healthcare costs. Members of the NHC play an essential role in identifying and tackling complex issues with noteworthy stakeholders in healthcare.

In addition to learning from its members, the NHC spends significant resources to retain the services of key experts in the field, such as Avalere Health.

- Secured patient friendly provisions in the [final Prescription Drug User Fee Act \(PDUFA\)](#) and Medical Device User Fee Act (MDUFA) agreements.
- Convened a roundtable of experts to develop policies to improve the Affordable Care Act [risk adjustment](#) model.
- Obtained provisions in the Physician Fee Schedule and Senate chronic care bill to establish payment codes for care planning services for people with chronic conditions.
- Convened multi-stakeholder panels to craft draft language for FDA use in guidance documents on patient engagement in drug development.

Build Alliances: Expand your network with the broader health community through participation in our policy action teams, affinity groups, conferences, and ad hoc briefings. The opportunities include:

- Monthly Policy Action team meeting/calls focused on:
 - Health Care Reform
 - Medical Innovation
- Three annual conferences:
 - Health Leadership Conference for CEOs and Board leadership
 - Conference for Chief Medical/Scientific Officers
 - Washington Representatives Retreat for government relations staff
- Networking groups for:
 - Chief Executive Officers
 - Chief Financial/Development Officers
 - Communications
 - Government Relations/Grassroots
- Ad hoc meetings on relevant/timely topics such as:
 - Defining representativeness
 - Sponsor-patient interaction good practices
 - ACA repeal, replace, rebrand

Increase Visibility: Enhance your organization's public profile and outreach to the broader health community.

- Submit links to your policy materials and meetings for the weekly [NHC Insider](#);
- Have your organization and work featured in a member spotlight in the [NHC blog, *Putting Patients First*](#); and
- Promote a job opening on the [NHC Job Bank](#).

Strengthen Internal Operations: Gain knowledge on current issues facing the nonprofit sector, such as new federal overtime rules, changes in charity rating systems, and methods for communicating impact. In addition, the NHC strives to share relevant policy work with its members ahead of deadlines such as:

- Comment letters
- Recently release white papers
- Draft working documents on policy positions