



**Waitematā**  
District Health Board  
**Best Care for Everyone**

**Specialist Mental Health & Addiction Services**  
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17 February 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

**Re: OIA request – Cost of Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)**

Thank you for your Official Information Act request, which was partially transferred from the Ministry of Health on 23 January 2020, seeking information about the cost of Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) at Waitematā District Health Board (DHB).

The Ministry of Health will respond to questions 1, 2 & 4 of your request. Question 3 was transferred to Waitematā DHB. Before responding, it may be useful to provide some context about our services to assist your understanding.

Waitematā DHB serves a population of more than 630,000 across the North Shore, Waitakere and Rodney areas, the largest and one of the most rapidly growing DHBs in the country.

The Specialist Mental Health and Addiction Services is the largest service of this kind in the country, by volume of service-users seen. The speciality comprises Adult Mental Health Services, Child Youth and Family Mental Health Services, Takanga a Fohe (Pacific mental health), Whitiki Maurea (Kāupapa Māori mental health), Community Alcohol and Drug Services (an Auckland regional service) and the Regional Forensic Psychiatry Service (covering Northland and greater Auckland regions).

In response to your request, we can provide the following information:

**3. I request the cost of ECT.**

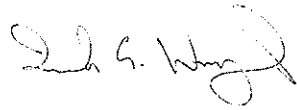
For the 2018/19 financial year, we have identified the cost of an ECT procedure to be \$859.

I trust that this information is helpful.

Waitematā DHB supports the open disclosure of information to assist community understanding of how we are delivering publicly funded healthcare. This includes the proactive publication of anonymised Official Information Act responses on our website from 10 working days after they have been released.

If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider your views.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek Wright', written in a cursive style.

Derek Wright  
**Specialist Mental Health & Addiction Services Lead**  
**Waitematā District Health Board**