Waitematā
District Health Board

Best Care for Everyone

Hospital Services
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05 February 2020

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Re: OIA request – Holter monitors

Thank you for your Official Information Act request received on 19 December 2019 via transfer from the Ministry of Health as they do not hold the information requested.

Before responding to your specific questions, it may be useful to provide some context about our services.

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. We are the largest employer in the district, employing around 7,500 people across more than 80 different locations.

You requested the following information:

The number of total tests nationwide and total cost of Holter monitoring type services for atrial fibrillation (AF) and other heart conditions for the latest year available.

Please note that the figures provided below should not be compared directly with those of other DHBs as the way information is gathered and reported across DHBs varies.

In 2019, Waitematā DHB completed a total of 1,780 holter monitor diagnostic tests on patients at a cost of approximately $103 per test, giving an approximate cost of $183,340 per annum. We have over 20 monitors in our service and treat approximately 34 patients, on average, per week.

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

Dr Debbie Holdsworth
Acting Director Hospital Services
Waitematā District Health Board