

**CORPORATE OFFICE**

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9(2)(a)

**RE Official Information Act request CDHB 10243**

I refer to your email dated 5 December 2019 to the Ministry of Health which they subsequently transferred to us on 19 December 2019 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act from Canterbury DHB. Specifically:

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

In response to your request for the number of Holter Monitoring Tests we performed last year, and costs, we are can supply the following information:

1. Tests per year for Canterbury patients:  
In the financial year 2017/18 (1 July 17 – 30/6/18) we fitted and analysed 1614 Holter tapes, and in the financial year 2018/19 - 1540.
2. Christchurch Hospital also does the holter analysis for South Canterbury DHB and the West Coast DHB (those hospital's own ECG departments fit the electrodes and remove them, then send the tapes here for analysis on our specialised Holter monitoring system).  
And performed: 230 for Timaru/South Canterbury in 2017/18, and 182 in 2018/19  
And performed: 149 for the West Coast DHB in 2017/18, and 158 in 2018/19.
3. Our event level costing for the 17/18 year suggests a current average cost of \$318 per analysis.

This cost includes:

- 60 minutes technician time ( this is an average time as individual tests can take longer or less time)
- 10minutes SMO time (for Cardiologist to reviewing the results and write to the GP)
- And we apportioned a little bit of linen, drugs and ECG supplies (12 ECG electrodes per patient plus given a few spares in case some wash off)
- This cost also includes overheads.

- NB we haven't costed the initial fitting of electrodes and patient instruction. This is probably 15 minutes of Technician time so an estimated additional \$20.00

I trust that this satisfies your interest in this matter.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Canterbury DHB website after your receipt of this response.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carolyn Gullery', with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Carolyn Gullery  
**Executive Director**  
**Planning, Funding & Decision Support**