

Canterbury

District Health Board

Te Poari Hauora o Waitaha

CORPORATE OFFICE

Level 1
32 Oxford Terrace
Christchurch Central
CHRISTCHURCH 8011

Telephone: 0064 3 364 4160
Fax: 0064 3 364 4165
carolyn.gullery@cdhb.health.nz

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RE Official information request CDHB 9948

We refer to your email request dated 21 September 2018 which was partially transferred to the Canterbury DHB from the Ministry of Health on 24 September 2018 seeking the following information under the Official Information Act regarding ECT (Electroconvulsive Therapy). Specifically questions 5, 6 and 7:

5. How many people were left brain damaged by ECT in the last ten years?

"Brain damage" is a very broad term. We are not aware of any patients who have suffered "brain damage" as a result of ECT.

6. How many people have been followed up on after receiving ECT to see if they have improved or become worse?

As part of good clinical care all people who receive ECT remain under the care of their treating psychiatrist for a period of time, which is determined by their clinical need. During this time, people's mental state continues to be monitored for both signs of relapse of their illness and ongoing cognitive problems.

7. How much does each ECT treatment cost?

The average cost for ECT treatment is \$2,974. (Includes two outpatient appointments on average at \$345.00 per outpatient follow up).

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



Greg Hamilton
Acting Executive Director
Planning, Funding & Decision Support