FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

THE ROYAL CORNWALL HOSPITALS NHS TRUST RESPONSE TO INFORMATION REQUEST

Date Request Received: 01 March 2019

FOI Ref: 5681

Requested Information

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like you to provide answers to the questions below.

If you cover more than one hospital, please provide the following information for each of the hospitals covered under your trust broken down individually.

The questions are in relation to ECG monitoring which is carried out only in the hospital setting.

Please supply details of:

1) How many tests in the following categories do you perform each year?
   - 24hr Holter
   - 48hr Holter
   - 72hr Holter
   - 7 day Holter
   - 7 day event recorder
   - Other please specify

2) Which monitoring modality do you use for the following, specify make and model?
   - 24hr Holter
   - 48hr Holter
   - 72hr Holter
   - 7 day Holter
   - 7 day event recorder
   - Other please specify

3) How many monitors do you have of each make/model?

4) How much is the service contract for each modality per year?

5) How many of these are in repair/lost?

6) What is the cost of repair if the device is not under a service contract?

7) What was the price paid per unit for each of the monitoring modalities above?

8) How much was the analysis software package (if purchased)?

9) What is the cost of the service contract on the analysis software?
10) What is your annual spend on consumables for monitoring?
   - Batteries
   - Electrodes
   - Alcohol wipes
   - Razors
   - Cleaning materials for monitors
   - Replacement leads

11) What is the average salary band of staff analysing ambulatory ECG monitor data?

12) How many of the staff employed to analyse ambulatory ECG data are working through a locum agency?

13) What is the current waiting time from referral to monitor fitting? Please specify if waiting times vary for each modality.

14) What is the current waiting time from monitor return to result availability? Please specify if waiting times vary for each modality.

15) How many ambulatory monitoring patients require hospital transport per year?
   a) Is transport also used to return the monitor?
   b) What is the average cost per return?

16) Does the patient also need to be transported back to hospital for removal?

17) What is the annual cost of transport services for ambulatory monitoring patients?

18) Is outpatient monitoring capacity limited by inpatient demand for monitoring?

19) Are you meeting monitoring demand for?
   a) Routine monitoring referrals
   b) Urgent monitoring referrals

20) If not, what was your annual spend on breaching fines in the last financial year?

Response

1) Please be advised the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust performs the following tests each year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Performed</th>
<th>Number of Tests performed Per Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24Hr Holter</td>
<td>1503</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48Hr Holter</td>
<td>133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72Hr Holter</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Day Holter</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Day Event Recording</td>
<td>737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2) Please see the table below for the monitoring modality used at the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust for tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Performed</th>
<th>Make and Model</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24Hr Holter</td>
<td>Novacor Vista, Lifecard CF, Mortara H3+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48Hr Holter</td>
<td>Novacor Vista, Lifecard CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72Hr Holter</td>
<td>Novacor Vista, Lifecard CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Day Holter</td>
<td>Novacor Vista, Lifecard CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Day Event Recording</td>
<td>Novacor Vista, Lifecard CF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please specify)</td>
<td>None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3) Please see the information below for the monitors held by the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust:

- Novacor Vista - 33
- Mortara H3+ - 16
- Lifecard CF - 10
- Novacor R Test - 10

4) The Service Contract held by the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust with Novacor is £20,400 (Including VAT)

5) The following Monitors held by the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust are currently lost or in repair:

- 1 Lifecard Cf machine
- 1 Novacor Vista

6) The service repair cost to the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust for a monitor not under a service contract is £356 (Excluding VAT)

7) Please be advised that the Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust (RCHT) is engaging exemption 43 (2) (Commercial Interests)¹ of the Freedom of Information Act

Exemption 43 (2) is a qualified exemption and the RCHT have fully considered the balance of public interest and are satisfied that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it. The Trust considers that there is a real likelihood of harm arising to both its own commercial interests (disclosing our purchasing position in a commercial environment); but also to our supplier’s commercial interests (negotiated prices are not freely available to all and the level of detail provided eg price modality would harm their ability to compete competitively by disclosing their commercial model).

8) The Trust does not have a record of purchasing an analysis software package in 2017/18

9) The analysis Software for the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust is included within the Overall Service Contract for the monitors
10) The annual spend on consumables is as follows:

- Batteries - £183.25 + vat per annum
- Electrodes - £14031.91 + vat per annum
- Alcohol wipes – unable to supply this information because these items are used for multiple procedures.
- Razors - unable to supply this information because these items are used for multiple procedures.
- Cleaning materials for monitors - unable to supply this information because these items are used for multiple procedures.
- Replacement leads - £14362.20 + vat per annum

11) The Average salary band for staff analysing Ambulatory ECG Monitor Data is a band 6

12) The Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust has not employed any staff through a locum agency to analyse ambulatory ECG data

13) The current waiting time from referral to monitor fitting at the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust for each modality is a two week waiting time

14) The Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust current waiting time from monitor return to result availability for each modality is 1 day for Urgent cases and 15 Days for Non Urgent Cases

15) – 17) Please be advised the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust does not track Patients requiring monitoring who require Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services

18) Outpatient monitoring capacity is not limited by inpatient demand for monitoring at the Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust

19) The Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust is meeting the required monitoring demands for Routine and Urgent Monitoring Referrals

20) The Royal Cornwall Hospitals Trust had no expenditure for breaching fines within the last financial year

143 (2) Information is exempt information if it’s disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to; prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).