

## Freedom of Information Act 2000

## The Royal Cornwall Hospitals NHS Trust Response to Information request

Date Request Received: 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025

FOI Ref No 29694

### Requested Information:

#### 1. Regarding your Holter monitor devices:

- Do you directly purchase reusable Holter monitors? If so, which company(ies) and product(s) do you currently use (e.g., Spacelabs)?
- How much do you pay for analysis software per license?
- Approximately how many tests do you perform per year using these monitors?

#### 2. Regarding outsourced Holter monitoring services:

- Do you use outsourced analysis services, either with single-use disposable Holter monitors (e.g., iRhythm Zio) or reusable devices (e.g., ECG on Demand, Express Diagnostics)? Which company(ies) and products do you use?
- What is the cost per Holter monitor or test under these outsourced services?
- How many tests do you carry out annually through outsourced providers?
- Are these services under a formal contract? If yes, when is the contract due to expire?
- What is the current waiting time (in weeks) for Holter monitor fitting?
- Do you currently experience a backlog in analysis? If so, how many tests are pending?

#### 3. Clinical service scope and strategic planning:

- Is the information above specific to cardiology services, stroke services, or both?
- Is your Trust considering purchasing new ambulatory ECG Holter monitors, either to replace older or damaged devices or to increase capacity?
- Do you perform analysis in-house or use remote reporting solutions?
- What are the main challenges your Trust faces regarding ambulatory ECG Holter recordings?
- Is there any consideration to establish a Cardiac Diagnostic Centre (CDC) or similar service to manage the volume and backlog of Holter tests?

### Response:

- Do you directly purchase reusable Holter monitors? If so, which company(ies) and product(s) do you currently use (e.g., Spacelabs)?
  - **Yes – Novacor & Spacelabs**
- How much do you pay for analysis software per license?
  - **Due to commercial confidentiality, we are unable to advise individual licence costs. Please see Appendix One**
- Approximately how many tests do you perform per year using these monitors?
  - **2000 per year**

- Do you use outsourced analysis services, either with single-use disposable Holter monitors (e.g., iRhythm Zio) or reusable devices (e.g., ECG on Demand, Express Diagnostics)? Which company(ies) and products do you use?
  - **Yes – Express Diagnostics & Novacor**
- What is the cost per Holter monitor or test under these outsourced services?
  - **Variable depending on duration of monitor and speed of turnaround.**
- How many tests do you carry out annually through outsourced providers?
  - **Approx. 500**
- Are these services under a formal contract? If yes, when is the contract due to expire?
  - **No formal contract in place**
- What is the current waiting time (in weeks) for Holter monitor fitting?
  - **3 weeks**
- Do you currently experience a backlog in analysis? If so, how many tests are pending?
  - **No**
- Is the information above specific to cardiology services, stroke services, or both?
  - **Cardiology**
- Is your Trust considering purchasing new ambulatory ECG Holter monitors, either to replace older or damaged devices or to increase capacity?
  - **No**
- Do you perform analysis in-house or use remote reporting solutions?
  - **In-house**
- What are the main challenges your Trust faces regarding ambulatory ECG Holter recordings?
  - **Booking appointments**
- Is there any consideration to establish a Cardiac Diagnostic Centre (CDC) or similar service to manage the volume and backlog of Holter tests?
  - **CDC already in place and part of the solution to successfully manage our Holter service.**

#### Attachment(s):

Appendix One –

#### **Section 43 (2) - Commercial Sensitivity (qualified)**

Regarding your request for the amount the Trust pays for the analysing software per licence, the Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust have considered this part of your request and after careful consideration, have concluded that the information requested is exempt from disclosure under Section 43 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

43 (2) Information is exempt from disclosure under this Act as it would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

Exemption 43 (2) is a qualified exemption, and the Royal Cornwall Hospital Trust 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.

**Date Response sent: 12<sup>th</sup> August 2025**