

2nd November 2021

s9(2)(a)

Dear s9(2)(a)

Official Information Act Request for – Contraceptive Devices

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 6th October 2021, you requested the following information:

1. Do you offer insertion of the Long Acting Contraceptive devices Mirena and Jaydess?
2. How many appointments are required to receive a Mirena or Jaydess device? – pre insertion consultations? Insertion, follow up?
3. For patients who are not eligible for subsidised funding, what is the standard cost of the Mirena/Jaydess insertion itself?
4. Do you have any criteria for free or reduced fees (e.g. Community services card, under 20s etc)
5. What does it cost to remove a Mirena or Jaydess device? If different for different groups, please specify.
6. Do you have any additional costs or surcharges associated with inserting Mirena or Jaydess?
7. Any additional comments/notes.

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people). We see over 118,000 people in our Emergency Department each year, and over 2,000 visitors come through Middlemore Hospital daily.

Our services are delivered via hospital, outpatient, ambulatory and community-based models of care. We provide regional and supra-regional specialist services i.e. for orthopaedics, plastics, burns and spinal services. There are also several specialist services provided including tertiary surgical services, medical services, mental health and addiction services.

1. Do you offer insertion of the Long Acting Contraceptive devices Mirena and Jaydess?
Yes.
2. How many appointments are required to receive a Mirena or Jaydess device? – pre insertion consultations? Insertion, follow up?

- **Primary Care:** One appointment (depending on the capacity of primary care to do the insertion at the time). If the health professional who has been consulted is not a LARC (Long Acting Reversible Contraception) inserter they may need to refer to a colleague to insert the LARC which would be a second visit. The only follow-up appointment recommended is for Mirena that may need strings shortened at 6 weeks post-partum after an immediate post-partum insertion.
 - **Hospital Services Provider:** Our DHB service provider offer one visit which covers counselling and insertion for postnatal mothers and follow up via a phone call or return visit for strings trim. We do not use Jaydess as our women are parous (i.e a woman who has given birth).
- 3. For patients who are not eligible for subsidised funding, what is the standard cost of the Mirena/Jaydess insertion itself?**
- **Primary Care:** The cost of an unfunded Mirena insertion in primary care varies considerably from about \$75 to \$300 depending on the practice. The cost of the Mirena /Jaydess would be additional to this if the person was not eligible for funded care.
Hospital Provider Services: For ineligible postnatal mothers (i.e. those not eligible for general healthcare services in New Zealand) the cost for Mirena IUCD insertion is \$443.39 (GST inclusive).
- 4. Do you have any criteria for free or reduced fees (e.g. Community services card, under 20s etc)**
- **Primary Care:** The DHB has contracts with all PHOs for credentialed providers to perform Mirena insertions when requested by women who live in Quintile 4 or 5, are Maaori or Pacific, have a Community Services Card (CSC), are enrolled in secondary mental health services or the drug and alcohol services or have had a termination of pregnancy in the last 6 months. Some PHOs provide free services for youth - under 22 or under 24 depending on the practice.
 - **Hospital Provider Services:** We provide fully funded insertions for all postnatal mothers birthing in Counties Manukau for up to 3 months post birth and fully funded insertion for Maaori, Pacifica, women in quintile 5, decile 7, CSC holders with no upper time limit.
- 5. What does it cost to remove a Mirena or Jaydess device? If different for different groups, please specify.**
- **Primary Care:** This is fully funded for the groups above and all women who have had a Mirena inserted after giving birth. Different practices may charge variable amounts from \$10 normal consultation fee to \$75. Some PHOs provide free contraception services for youth.
 - **Hospital Provider Services:** If the DHB hospital provider services insert it then it's free to remove.
- 6. Do you have any additional costs or surcharges associated with inserting Mirena or Jaydess?**
- **Primary Care:** There is a \$5 prescription fee but this is mostly covered by the LARC contract.
 - **Hospital Provider Services:** No
- 7. Any additional comments/notes.**
- Jaydess would be used if a woman was particularly slight.

I trust this information answers your request. You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or Freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response or an edited version of this may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Fepulea'i Margie Apa', written in a cursive style.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health