

27th April 2022



Official Information Act Request for – Costs of Patients and COVID 19

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us 9TH March 2022 by way of transfer from the Ministry of Health, you requested the following information:

- **I would like to have the cost related to treating a covid Patient in these cases**
 1. **ICU/HDU**
 2. **Normal ward**
 3. **Cost of nurses visiting patients not in hospital**
 4. **Can these costs be put in a spread sheet for one day on average cost also importantly the average time each patient is in these states.**

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.

- **I would like to have the cost related to treating a covid Patient in these cases**

We have pulled the information you have requested using the following criteria:

 - *Does not include day case procedures or patients discharged from Mental Health and Rehabilitation Services*
 - *Costs are fully absorbed and include overheads for each cost department*
 - *The cost categories displayed (ward+ doctors etc.) are based on logical groupings of the Common Costing Standards CS7 groups*
 1. **ICU/HDU**

The costs below reflect the average per patient event cost for any patient who was transferred to ICU/HDU at some point of their patient journey and includes

Ward/Doctor cost, Lab, Radiology, Pharmacy, Allied Health cost, Emergency Department assessment cost and other costs including blood products.

The average cost per patient event for ICU/HDU is \$137,738.

2. Normal ward

The cost below reflects the average per patient event cost for a General Ward and includes Ward/Doctor cost, Lab, Radiology, Pharmacy, Allied Health cost, Emergency Department assessment cost and other costs including blood products.

This information excludes day cases and any case that went to ICU/HDU. It also excludes patients discharged from Mental Health and Adult Treatment and Rehabilitation.

The average cost per patient event for a general ward is \$7,180.

3. Cost of nurses visiting patients not in hospital

COVID patients seen through Hospital in the Home are predominantly seen virtually however some patients need face to face visits for medication management, mobility & equipment assessment, anti-blood clotting medication administration, IV antivirals & management of non-COVID related complex issues e.g. COPD, Diabetes or Congestive Heart Failure. Each episode of care costs \$1340.

4. Can these costs be put in a spread sheet for one day on average cost also importantly the average time each patient is in these states.

The attachment reflects the information requested in spreadsheet form and also breaks down the information by individual costs.

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



Dr Peter Watson
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health