



Bwrdd Iechyd
Addysgu Powys
Powys Teaching
Health Board

Information Governance Team
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Our ref: IG/FOI/24.R.006

25 January 2024

Sent via email to: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information which was received on 8 January 2024, to confirm, in accordance with S.1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, that Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) does hold the information that you require.

For ease of reference your request is set out below and our response follows each question individually:

Your Freedom of Information (FOI) Request and Powys Response (Bold):

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting information on your Trust's usage of ambulatory electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) Holter monitors and associated software for analysis reporting.

Specifically, could you please provide answers to the following questions:

1. Does the Trust use ambulatory electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) Holter monitors?

Yes.

1(i) If "Yes" then which make and models are currently in use and how many of each are currently deployed?

I can confirm Powys Teaching Health Board (PTHB) currently uses R.test 2 (Novacor), and four of these are currently deployed. Kardia and Zio XT monitoring are used in General Practice under a Local Enhanced Scheme.

1(ii) If "No" then does the Trust intend to implement ambulatory electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) Holter monitoring in the near future? (Yes or No)

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Not applicable.

2. Does the Trust use software to read EDF reports? If ""Yes"" then which vendor(s) are used?

PTHB uses Novacor RTSoft4 and Zio Irhythm tech.

3. Does the Trust use an external ECG Interpretation Provider. If ""Yes"" then which vendor(s) are used?

Yes, Zio Irhythm tech.

4. How many ambulatory electrocardiogram ECG readings does the Trust perform each year?

Since 1st April 2023, PTHB has performed 100 ECG readings within clinic, and 278 ECG readings within GP Practices.

5. What is the split of the ambulatory ECG reading volumes in question 5, by length of recording? (e.g. 24hr, 48h, 72h, 7-day, 14-day)

Of the Novacor RTSoft4 Holter monitors, approximately 75% are worn for 7 days, with shorter recordings if that is more appropriate for specific patients. The Zio Irhythm tech monitors are worn for an average of 13 days. The Kardia monitors are given out to patients for varying amounts of time depending on how frequent their symptoms are as assessed by the GP.

6. In what environment are the ambulatory ECG holters fitted? (e.g. secondary care, community diagnostic centre [CDC], primary care)

The ambulatory ECG Holters are fitted in our community diagnostic centre and within our Primary Care service.

7. What is your preferred buying method for these devices? (e.g. Direct, Supply Chain, Other)

PTHB's preferred method of purchasing these devices is Direct.

8. How much did the Trust pay for its currently deployed ECG Holter devices and software (per device), and what costs are associated with maintenance, such as battery replacement, servicing etc?

I can confirm PTHB spent approximately £2,500 per item, with a low maintenance cost. Software for Kardia devices is £120 per device, with minimal maintenance. Software for Zio XT devices (single use 2-week recording) is £200 each, with no maintenance.

9. Does the Trust have service contracts for the currently deployed ambulatory ECG devices. If so, how much is this per annum for the different brand of devices by vendor(s)?

Yes, the prices are paid as per question 8. There is no set value and PTHB is billed per unit on a call-off basis.

10. How many ambulatory ECG monitors did the Trust purchase in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 per make and model of Holter monitor?

PTHB did not purchase any ECG monitors between 2020 and 2022. In 2023, PTHB purchased 4 x Novacor RT Soft4 devices, 214 x Zio Irhythm tech devices and 220 Kardia devices.

11. What is the Trust's wait time for ambulatory ECG Holter Fittings and ECG reporting?

PTHB's wait time for ECG Holter Fittings is 2-3 weeks and the waiting time for ECG reporting is 2 weeks.

12. Is the Trust meeting their targets for ambulatory ECG recording volumes and patient waiting times?

Yes.

13. What are the Trusts biggest challenges for cardiology ECG ambulatory recordings?

One of PTHB's biggest challenges for cardiology ECG ambulatory recordings is the returning of the monitors from patients due to the rural setting of Powys.

14. Is the Trust considering purchasing any new ambulatory ECG Holter monitors? For replacement of old devices, broken devices, or needing more equipment?

PTHB is planning to expand the use of Zio XT single use monitors from Primary to Secondary care clinics. We are yet to confirm quantities pending evaluation of waiting lists in the South of the County.

15. Who is the Trust's senior electrophysiologist or cardiology manager and what are their contact details? (Name, position, email, telephone)

PTHB's cardiology manager is the Advanced Cardiac Physiologist. They can be contacted via email: CommunityCardiologyService@wales.nhs.uk or telephone: 01686 617213.

Should you need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me at the address below.

If you are dissatisfied, with the way your request has been dealt with by PTHB, you have the right to request a review in which case you should write to:

Chief Executive
Powys Teaching Health Board Headquarters
Glasbury House
Bronllys Hospital
Bronllys
Brecon
Powys LD3 0LY

If you are still dissatisfied at the end of the review, you may complain to the Information Commissioner, who can be contacted at the following address:

Information Commissioner's Office - Wales
2nd Floor,

Churchill House,
Churchill Way,
Cardiff, CF10 2HH

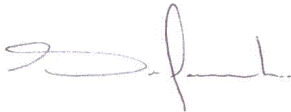
Tel: 029 2067 8400 Fax 029 2067 8399

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yng Nghymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb y fath ohebiaeth yng Nghymraeg ac ni fydd hyn yn arwain at oedi. We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. We will reply to such correspondence in Welsh and this will not lead to a delay.

Yours sincerely



David Farnsworth
Interim Executive Director of Operations / Director of Community and
Mental Health