

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_109_21

You asked:

Definition of Ambulatory Sensitive Conditions: Ambulatory Care Sensitive Conditions (ACSCs) are health conditions-diagnoses for which timely and effective outpatient care can help to reduce the risks of hospitalization by either preventing the onset of an illness or condition, controlling an acute episodic illness or condition, or managing a chronic disease (Sarmiento et al, 2020).

- 1. Other than an inflationary uplift, has the Community Health Services contract or budget allocation increased, decreased, or remained the same during the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financing years?**

The budget for community health services has increased.

- 2. Does the Health Board's contact or agreement for Community Health Service specifically include the provision of care, or services, for ambulatory sensitive conditions which are designed to prevent emergency admission to hospital?**

Our Primary / Community Health Services include some anticipatory care and rapid response services that help prevent emergency admission to hospital, but these are not necessarily designed around specific health conditions. Examples of such services include our Stay Well @Home and Stay Well in your Community Services, Community Health & Wellbeing teams, Virtual Ward and Community Resource Team.

- 3. Is the prevention of admission to hospital with one or more ambulatory sensitive condition a specific component or target for the Board's district nursing services?**

No, this does not sit solely with district nursing but is a multi-disciplinary / multi-agency responsibility.

- 4. Has the Health Board developed services, in the last two years (2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years), which are designed to prevent admission to hospital for patients with ambulatory sensitive conditions?**

Yes, although again not condition specific.

- 5. If the answer to question 3 was yes – were these services to develop:**

- **New Teams within the Community Health Services** - Yes
- **Ambulatory Care in the Hospital Setting** - Yes
- **Existing Community Health Services and Teams** - Yes
- **Primary Care – General Practice Services** - Yes
- **Other (briefly describe)** – Community Pharmacy schemes eg Choose Pharmacy Common Ailments Scheme, Independent Prescribers, Test and Treat schemes