

Freedom of Information Request: Our Reference CTMUHB_08_24

You asked:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting information on your Health Board'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 Health Board 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?

Make/Model	Count of Model No
Spacelabs	
98700	22
Lifecard CF	66

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

N/A.

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

We are assuming that this is an error and should be PDF? On that basis we can confirm that we use GE Muse.

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

No.

4. How many ambulatory electrocardiogram ECG readings does the Health Board perform each year? 22/23

22/23 – 4386.

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)

22/23

24hr – 3844

48hr - 295

72hr – 139

7 day - 94

5 day – 14

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

Secondary Care.

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

Direct.

8. How much did the Health Board 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?

We can confirm that Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board holds information requested. However, we would like to advise you that the information you requested is being withheld under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The exemption which the Health Board has applied to this information is: Section (43)(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Health Board considers the information to be of a commercially sensitive nature and that the release of this information would or would be likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any parties concerned.

The University Health Board accepts that there is a public interest in ensuring openness and transparency however, the Health Board believes that disclosure of information in a manner which fails to protect the interests and relationships arising in a commercial context could have the effect of discouraging companies from dealing with the Health Board because of fears that the disclosure of information could damage them commercially. In turn this could then jeopardise the Health Boards ability to compete fairly and pursue its function to bring forward development in the area and obtain value for money.

9. Does the Health Board have service contracts for the currently deployed ambulatory ECG devices. – Yes.

If so, how much is this per annum for the different brand of devices by vendor(s)?

Please see response to question 8.

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

Make/Model	Count of Model No
Spacelabs	
98700	22
2022	6

All others were purchased prior to 2020.

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

12 weeks.

12.Is the Health Board meeting their targets for ambulatory ECG recording volumes and patient waiting times? (Yes or No)

No, but recent monitor purchase should reduce wait.

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

- Staffing
- Equipment – lost or monitors not returned.

14. Is the Health Board considering purchasing any new ambulatory ECG Holter monitors? – Yes.

For replacement of old devices, broken devices, or needing more equipment?

For replacement of broken/lost devices.

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

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*Personal Information is held by Data Controllers on the basis of the exercise of functions identified in the formal notification to the Information Commissioner. Any processing of that personal information outside of those functions may be unlawful. Furthermore the General Data Protection regulation and Data Protection Act 2018 makes provision for a data subject to exercise a right to prevent processing in particular circumstances. The data subject shall have the right to object, on grounds relating to his or her particular situation, at any time to processing of personal data concerning him or her which is based on point (e) or (f) of Article 6(1), including profiling based on those provisions where personal data are processed for direct marketing purposes.

We can confirm that the individuals captured by this request have stated that they do not wish their personal data to be used for direct marketing purposes.