

04 September 2019

Daniel Ryan

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Tēnā koe Daniel

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-001032

Thank you for your email of 08 August 2019, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *For 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years, the amount of money ACC spent on funding acupuncture treatments, broken down by injury by body part as follows: Head, Neck, Shoulders, Arms, Elbows, Wrists, Hands, Spinal, Torso, Hips, Legs, Knees, Ankles and Feet.*
2. *Any more specific breakdowns of acupuncture spending by injury that are available for this period, for example, categorised by site and type of injury.*
3. *All previous and current predictions of spending on acupuncture treatments by ACC.*

Information on ACC’s acupuncture spend is attached (Questions 1 and 2)

Please find information on ACC’s spend on acupuncture by the injury site (head, neck etc) and injury diagnosis in the attached Excel file. Please refer to the notes provided in the attachment when reviewing the information.

Budget for acupuncture is provided below (Question 3)

In terms of ‘predictions of spending’, ACC calculates an estimate (budget) of its spend for various claim-related costs for each new financial year (including treatment services). Please find below the budgets we calculated for acupuncture for the financial years 2016/17 to 2019/20.

ACC’s budgets for acupuncture (ex GST)

Financial year	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Budget	\$31.90m	\$38.43m	\$43.27m	\$50.26m

Privacy

We have suppressed some cost information as a precaution against the possibility that individual claims, and cost information attributable to those claims, may be identified. In this case, we have used the value ‘<\$100’ for any spend less than \$100, and have suppressed some figures (indicated by ‘..’) to ensure that exact amounts cannot be calculated from the totals.

This measure has been taken to protect personal privacy, and is made under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. We consider that the public interest in the specific figures does not outweigh the individual privacy interests.

Queries about our response

If you have any questions, you can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Emma Coats
Manager Official Information Act Services
Government Engagement & Support