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Ref: H201600429

Dear Shane

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request of 15 February 2016 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for data on the number of surgical treatments, and cost estimates for ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease that have been publicly funded for the past five years.

The Ministry of Health collects information on hospital discharges in the National Minimum Dataset (NMDS). The NMDS does not record the actual cost of an event but it does hold a derived costweight that can be used to estimate the cost of an event. The methodology used to calculate costweights can be found on the Ministry's website via this link:

<http://www.health.govt.nz/nz-health-statistics/data-references/weighted-inlier-equivalent-separations?mega=Health%20statistics&title=Weighted%20Inlier%20Equivalent%20Separations>

Please find attached an excel spreadsheet containing the following tables:

1. Table 1. Procedures performed during publicly funded hospital discharges for surgical DRGs with a primary diagnosis of Crohn's disease, numbers, 2010/11 - 2014/15
2. Table 2. Publicly funded hospital casemix discharges with a primary diagnosis of Crohn's disease, surgical DRG numbers and estimated cost, 2010/11 - 2014/15
3. Table 3. Procedures performed during publicly funded hospital discharges for surgical DRGs with a primary diagnosis of ulcerative colitis, numbers, 2010/11 - 2014/15
4. Table 4. Publicly funded hospital discharges with a primary diagnosis of ulcerative colitis, surgical DRG numbers and estimated cost, 2010/11 - 2014/15

Please note that non-casemix events have been excluded from the estimated cost data.

Tables 1 and 3 contain procedures that may have been performed for a diagnosis other than Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis. This is because secondary diagnoses within the event may have had a procedure performed to treat them. We are unable to systematically exclude them without risking excluding a procedure that was performed in relation to Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.

If you have any queries about this data, please direct them to Analytical Services, Ministry of Health. They can be contacted by phone on (04) 496-2000, fax on (04) 816-2898 or by email (data-enquiries@moh.govt.nz).

I trust this information fulfils your request.

Yours sincerely



Michael Hundleby
Acting National Director
National Health Board
Ministry of Health