

FOI REF: 24/016

2nd February 2024

Tel: 0300 131 4500
Website: www.esht.nhs.uk

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

I am responding to your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act. The answers to your specific questions are as follows:

I am requesting information on your Trust's usage of ambulatory electrocardiogram (EKG or ECG) Holter monitors and associated software for analysis reporting.

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

Yes.

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

Novacor - R.Test Evolution 4, 109 are currently deployed.

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

Not applicable.

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

No.

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

No.

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

3,300.

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)

1488 24 hour
1812 7 day

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)

Capital purchase (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?

Costs are all NHS Supply Chain costs for purchase and 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)?

No, these devices are supported in-house.

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

2020	20 x Novacor - R.Test Evolution 4
2021	66 x Novacor - R.Test Evolution 4 56 x Spacelabs - Lifecard CF
2022	4 x Spacelabs - Lifecard CF / Spacelabs
2023	10 x Novacor - R.Test Evolution 4

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

Fitting	2 weeks
Reporting	4 weeks

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

No.

13) What are the Trust's biggest challenges for cardiology ECG ambulatory recordings?

Lack of qualified staff, lack of analysis terminals.

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

No, our equipment levels are correct for the next 5 years.

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

Martin Layzell
Head of Cardiac Physiology

We are unable to provide the contact details of staff as we consider this information to be exempt from release in accordance with section 44 of the Freedom of Information Act (Prohibition on disclosure) and would refer to the Privacy and Electronic Communications EC Directive Regulations 2003 which provide specific rules on electronic communication services, including marketing (by phone, fax, email or text) and keeping communications services secure. We will not provide any information that could result in the transmission of unsolicited communications which may place an unacceptable risk to our email network and could also have a detrimental impact on patient care and treatment.

The contact number for the Trust are accessible on the Trust website <http://www.esht.nhs.uk>.

This is an absolute exemption and there is, therefore, no requirement to consider the public interest.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Should you be dissatisfied with the Trust's response to your request, you have the right to request an internal review. Please write to the Freedom of Information Department (esh-tr.foi@nhs.net), quoting the above reference, within 40 working days. The Trust is not obliged to accept an internal review after this date.

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Should you still be dissatisfied with your FOI request, you have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner at the following address:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Department
esh-tr.foi@nhs.net