

17 February 2020

[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-003484**

Thank you for your email of 26 January 2020, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*On 5 June 2018 you provided an update (ref 0051935) to a previous request on MRI scans and back pain.*

*Would you kindly provide a further update to this information to include the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years.*

**The data you requested**

The updated information you have requested is provided in the two tables below.

**Table 1:**

Payments in 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years for MRI procedures where primary injury site is either 'back except head vertebrae', 'upper back/spine' or 'lower back/spine'.

Payment financial year	Number of items paid	Average cost per item \$
2017/18	17,152	732
2018/19	17,938	744

**Table 2:**

Payments in 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years for MRI procedures where read code is S572 - lumbar sprain.

Payment financial year	Number of items paid	Average cost per item \$
2017/18	10,618	741
2018/19	11,095	754

**Notes about the data**

Please note the following when interpreting the data we have provided:

- The data is collated by financial year, this being from 1 July to 30 June.
- Accredited employer claims are excluded from the information.

- Costs provided are exclusive of GST.
- All costs are rounded to the nearest dollar.
- Information is based on the payment date which may be different to the date of service.
- The financial year in which the service was paid may differ to the financial year in which the service was provided.
- Data were extracted on 05 Feb 2020, due to vendor billing behaviour and late invoicing, the numbers may change if extracted at a later date.

**How you can reach us**

If you have any questions, you can email me at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz).

Nāku iti noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sasha Wood', with a stylized, cursive script.

Sasha Wood

**Acting Manager Official Information Act Services**  
Government Engagement & Support