

15 October 2015

Mr Mark Hanna  
fyi-request-3043-e1b938a3@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Hanna

### Official Information Act request

Thank you for your request of 13 August 2015 asking for information around ACC's spending on acupuncture. On 10 October 2015, ACC advised you that an additional 25 days was required in order to consider your request. Each of your questions is addressed below.

You asked for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

1. *For the 2014/15 financial year, the amount of money ACC spent on funding acupuncture treatments, broken down by injury type as in the response to this request: <https://fyi.org.nz/request/1890-breakdowns-of-the-acc-s-spending-on-acupuncture-by-body-part>*
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.*

In the response to [fyi.org.nz/request/1890-breakdowns-of-the-acc-s-spending-on-acupuncture-by-body-part](https://fyi.org.nz/request/1890-breakdowns-of-the-acc-s-spending-on-acupuncture-by-body-part), ACC advised that it could not provide information around the spending on acupuncture treatments on specific body parts. This is because acupuncture costs are registered against a claim, and one claim can involve many body parts. In response to that request, ACC provided the total spend on acupuncture for each year.

ACC is able to provide the amount spent on acupuncture services broken down into categories of injury diagnosis. Please refer to the following table for the cost of acupuncture treatments by injury diagnosis and the total cost of acupuncture treatments in the 2014/15 year.

When considering the above table, please take note of the following:

- The costs exclude GST;
- Information is provided by financial year from 1 July to 30 June;
- The date of payment (from ACC to the provider) may be different to the date of service. The provided information is based on the payment date;
- Only injury diagnosis categories with recorded payments have been included.

**Cost for acupuncture treatments by injury diagnosis**

<b>Injury Diagnosis</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
Amputation / Enucleation	\$3,798
Burns	\$32,062
Concussion / Brain Injury	\$62,738
Deafness	\$1,280
Dental injuries	\$7,015
Foreign body in Orifice / Eye	\$4,517
Fracture / Dislocation	\$662,598
Gradual Onset	\$76,997
Hernia	\$1,734
Inhalation / Ingestion	\$907
Laceration / Puncture Wound	\$317,251
Mental Injury / Nervous Shock	\$170
Occupational Disease	\$681
Other	\$428,645
Soft Tissue Injury	\$24,788,178
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$26,388,572</b>

3. *All previous and current predictions of spending on acupuncture treatments by ACC.*

Please refer to the following table for the estimated cost of acupuncture treatments for each financial year.

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>
2003/04	5,045,689
2004/05	5,201,898
2005/06	6,265,585
2006/07	6,988,619
2007/08	9,408,051
2008/09	15,564,241
2009/10	18,187,014
2010/11	17,547,313
2011/12	17,696,619
2012/13	16,646,116
2013/14	21,830,937
2014/15	25,222,293
2015/16	25,365,689

**ACC is happy to answer your questions**

If you have any questions about the information provided, ACC will be happy to work with you to answer these. You can contact us at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz) or in writing to *Government Services, PO Box 242, Wellington 6140*.

Yours sincerely

*Government Services*

**Government Services**