

13 February 2020

Isaac Beach
Data.govt.nz

Tēnā koe Isaac

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-003217

Thank you for your request of 23 December 2019, which was received by ACC on 6 January 2020 from data.govt.nz, for the following information:

Average expense per claim by injury type in last 12 months

Wanting to receive the data on average expense to ACC per claim by injury type in last 12 months.

Acc expense per claim by injury type. Injury type would refer to the actual condition that a patient suffered as a result of being injured and for which they were diagnosed by a health professional. For example, grade 2 MCL tear.

It would be preferable that the information be presented in raw data format in the form of an excel spreadsheet or similar program.

Alternatively, if there is an internal ACC report that outlines this information o would be happy to receive a copy of such report(s).

We are responding to your request under the under the Official Information Act 1982.

Information Released

The information requested is attached as Appendix One.

Please note that we have interpreted your request to mean the average *lifetime cost* of claims by injury type, for all claims that were active in the last 12 months. This is indicative of what that claim will cost ACC from when the claim is lodged until when ACC no longer provides compensation. “12 months” is based on claims active between 1 January 2019 and 31 December 2019. An active claim is a claim that a payment from ACC was generated for. Therefore, for active claims data the claim may not necessarily have been lodged, or had the accident occur, in the same 12-month period that a payment was generated.

ACC has approximately 30,000 individual injury codes that are used to specify the injury or injuries a client has. However, it would require a significant amount of time to provide specific data to the level of grade 2 medial collateral ligament (MCL) injuries for *all* claims over the last 12 months as the data would need to be manually reviewed. Therefore, we have provided the data by diagnosis type, which categorises injuries at a more generic, aggregate level. In this case, MCL injuries are included in the table provided under “soft tissue injuries”.

You can contact us again with a more specific request, such as for knee or elbow injury claims, if you would like data broken down into more specific injuries.

Notes on the data provided

Please note the following:

- Costs do not include Public Health Acute Services (PHAS) payments. Treatment for covered claims in public hospitals is provided by an annual service agreement between ACC and the Ministry of Health and is funded by bulk payments from ACC to the Crown.
- Accredited Employer claims have been excluded.
- Information provided is based on a claim's primary injury, therefore averages should not be treated as definitive, but are wholly representative of the average.
- There are instances where a diagnosis description has not been specified, these are captured as "Other"
- Only claims with an Accepted cover decision have been included.
- Data were extracted on 28 January 2020 and may differ if rerun at a later date.
- Costs are GST Exclusive and include all claim costs such as treatment and weekly compensation, for example.

How to contact us

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

Nāku iti noa, nā



Sasha Wood

Acting Manager Official Information Act Services
Government Engagement & Support