

19 September 2025

Cardiac Monitoring

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information for each hospital site within your Trust

1. Regarding your Holter monitor devices:

- **Do you directly purchase reusable Holter monitors? If so, which company(ies) and product(s) do you currently use (e.g., Spacelabs)?**

Yes. Spacelabs, Life card CF ECG Holter Monitor.

- **How much do you pay for analysis software per license?**

Included in cost of original system purchase.

- **Approximately how many tests do you perform per year using these monitors?**

3,500

2. Regarding outsourced Holter monitoring services:

- **Do you use outsourced analysis services, either with single-use disposable Holter monitors (e.g., iRhythm Zio) or reusable devices. Which company(ies) and products do you use?**

No

- **What is the cost per Holter monitor or test under these outsourced services?**

Not applicable

- **How many tests do you carry out annually through outsourced providers?**

None

- **Are these services under a formal contract? If yes, when is the contract due to expire?**

Not applicable

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- **What is the current waiting time (in weeks) for Holter monitor fitting?**

Routine: 45 weeks
Urgent: 12 weeks

- **Do you currently experience a backlog in analysis? If so, how many tests are pending?**

On occasion, number of Holters booked are generally balanced well with staff available to analyse.

Currently, there are 26 on the Belfast Health and Social Care Trust Holter Reading Worklist to be analysed.

3. Clinical service scope and strategic planning:

- **Is the information above specific to cardiology services, stroke services, or both?**

Cardiology services

- **Is your Trust considering purchasing new ambulatory ECG Holter monitors, either to replace older or damaged devices or to increase capacity?**

Yes, to replace damaged devices.

- **Do you perform analysis in-house or use remote reporting solutions?**

In-house analysis

- **What are the main challenges your Trust faces regarding ambulatory ECG Holter recordings?**

Waiting list targets

- **Is there any consideration to establish a Cardiac Diagnostic Centre (CDC) or similar service to manage the volume and backlog of Holter tests?**

Not at present

4. Cardiac Physiology contact:

Lead Physiologist: kyle.ashfield@belfasttrust.hscni.net