

Supplementary Material

The cost savings of the rural accelerated chest pain pathway for low-risk chest pain in rural general practice: a cost minimisation analysis

Rory Miller^{A,}, Garry Nixon^A, Tim Stokes^A, Michelle Smith^A, John W. Pickering^{B,C}, Talis Liepins^D and Martin Than^B*

^ADepartment of General Practice and Rural Health, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand

^BEmergency Department, Canterbury District Health Board, Christchurch, New Zealand

^CDepartment of Medicine, University of Otago Christchurch, Christchurch, New Zealand

^DSouthern District Health Board, Dunedin, New Zealand

*Correspondence to: Email: Rory.miller@otago.ac.nz

Supplementary Material

Supplementary Table S1. Sensitivity analysis for the lost income (New Zealand Dollars) for patients and their partner depending on whether the patient had chest pain assessment with the Rural Accelerated Chest Pain Pathway (RACPP) in general practice or transferred to an urban emergency department (ED). The median New Zealand (NZ) income, Jobseeker support payment, superannuation payment, NZ minimum wage and no cost or income was substituted for patients whose income was not known or they were unwaged.

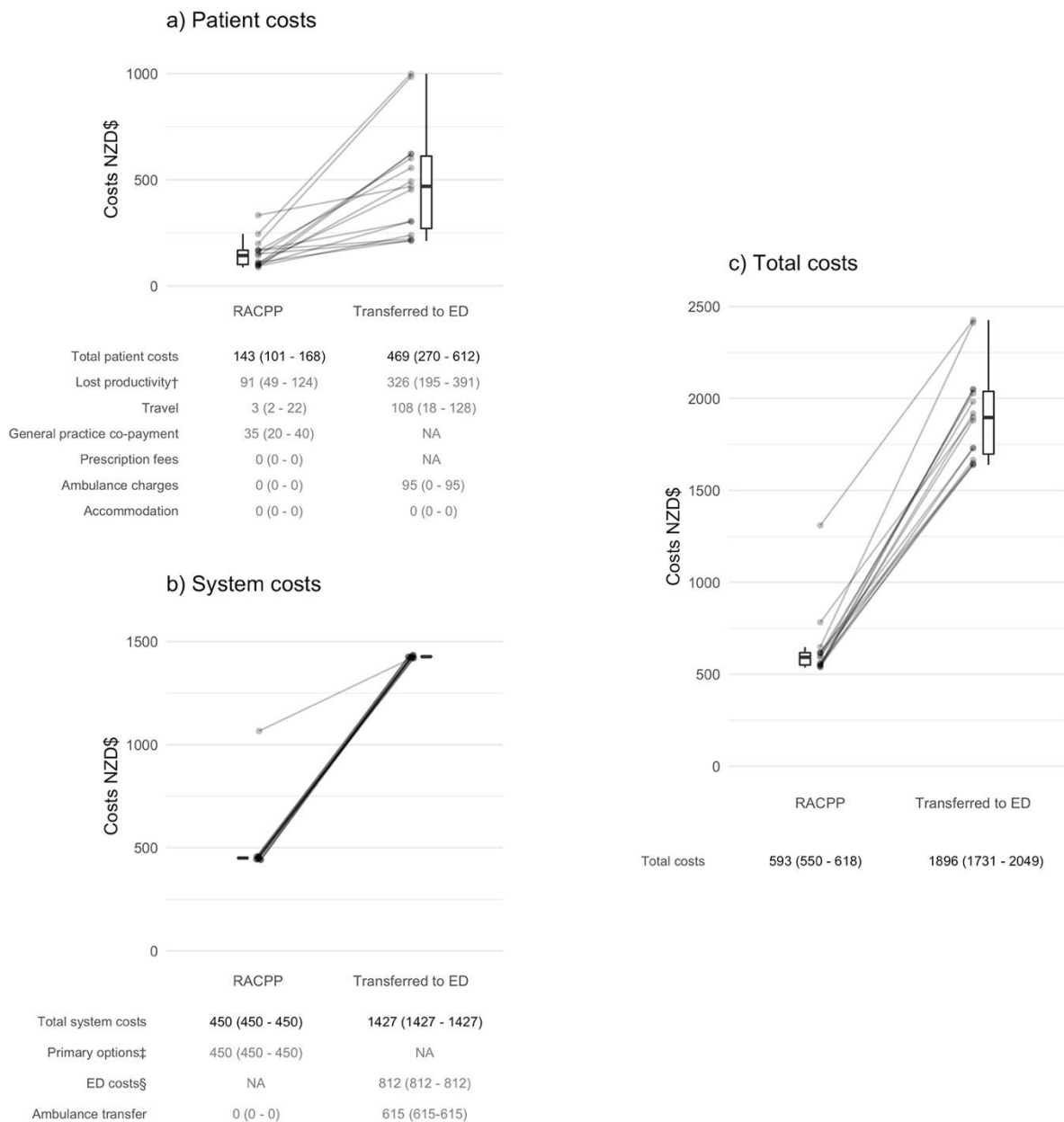
	Lost income due to assessment in general practice with RACPP	Lost income due to transfer to ED	Median difference	Difference between the total costs between ED and RACPP assessment strategy
	Median (interquartile range)		Median (95% confidence intervals) [†]	
Median New Zealand (NZ) income (\$24.97/hr) ¹	91 (49 to 111)	326 (195 to 391)	207 (98 to 342)	1184 (1111 to 1468)
Jobseeker Support payment (\$5.47/hr) ²	22 (14 to 60)	88 (44 to 175)	77 (33 to 142)	1126 (1053 to 1263)
Superannuation payment (\$10.28/hr) ³	41 (26 to 67)	164 (82 to 291)	134 (62 to 164)	1188 (1072 to 1332)
Minimum wage (\$17.70/hr) ⁴	71 (42 to 99)	272 (142 to 307)	207 (71 to 248)	1167 (1098 to 1394)
No cost/income for time away from home/work (\$0/hr)	0 (0 to 60)	0 (0 to 137)	0 (0 to 82)	1123 (1016 to 1154)

[†] For the median differences in costs, 95% confidence intervals (95% CI) were estimated by resampling the data with 1000 bootstrapped samples.

1. StatsNZ :Tatauranga Aotearoa. Labour market statistics (income): June 2018 quarter [Internet]. 2018 Aug [cited 2019 Nov 29]. Available from: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/labour-market-statistics-income-june-2018-quarter>

2. Work and Income. Jobsseeker Support cut-out points (current) [Internet]. 2019 [cited 2020 Feb 14]. Available from: <https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/deskfile/main-benefits-cut-out-points/jobseeker-support-cut-out-points-current.html>
3. Work and Income. New Zealand Superannuation and Veterans Pension rates (current) [Internet]. 2019 [cited 2020 Feb 14]. Available from: <https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/map/deskfile/nz-superannuation-and-veterans-pension-tables/new-zealand-superannuation-and-veterans-pension-ra.html>
4. Employment New Zealand. Current minimum wage rates [Internet]. 2018 [cited 2020 Feb 14]. Available from: <https://www.employment.govt.nz/hours-and-wages/pay/minimum-wage/minimum-wage-rates/>

Supplementary Figure S1. Median cost and inter-quartile range for (a) the patient, (b) the health care system and (c) total costs for the assessment of low-risk chest pain. Estimated costs are presented for the use of the Rural Accelerated Chest Pain Pathway (RACPP) in rural general practice and if the patient was transferred directly to the Emergency Department (ED) (all costs in New Zealand Dollars).



† Lost productivity: Where income was unknown, the median New Zealand income (\$24.97/hr) was substituted.

‡ Primary options for acute care: public funding available for acute care provided in general practice that avoids a hospital admission.

§ Emergency department costs based on a triage 2 presentation with chest pain.