

## Questions without Notice

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**Name:** Hon Ruth Forrest MLC

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### Questions:

- 1 Are patients still required to pay a daily or weekly charge to access the bed side television;
  - 2 If so;
    - 2.1 Does this apply to all hospitals; and
      - 2.1.1 If not, please list hospitals that patients are required to pay in if this doesn't apply to all.
    - 2.2 What is the daily/weekly charge in each hospital;
    - 2.3 When were the costs last reviewed; and
    - 2.4 Does the government still consider it appropriate to not fund access to a television for patients who are in hospital?
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**Answered by:** Hon Leonie Hiscutt MLC  
Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

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### Answers:

Patients at all four major hospitals pay for patient entertainment to be delivered at the bedside, through TVs provided by Hills Health Solutions through an analogue Master Antenna Television System.

However, patients in K Block of the Royal Hobart Hospital do have access to free-to-air TV at no cost as this is delivered digitally over Internet Protocol Television.

The daily charge is \$12.50, or \$11.50 for concession card holders. The weekly charge is \$80.50, or \$74.20 for concession card holders. These costs were reviewed in January this year, when Hills Health Solutions introduced a new schedule of rates.

The Tasmanian Health Service is working towards consistent, free access to TV for inpatients across the state. Options for upgrading TV access are considered as part of redevelopment projects.



Jeremy Rockliff MP  
**Premier**  
**Minister for Health**