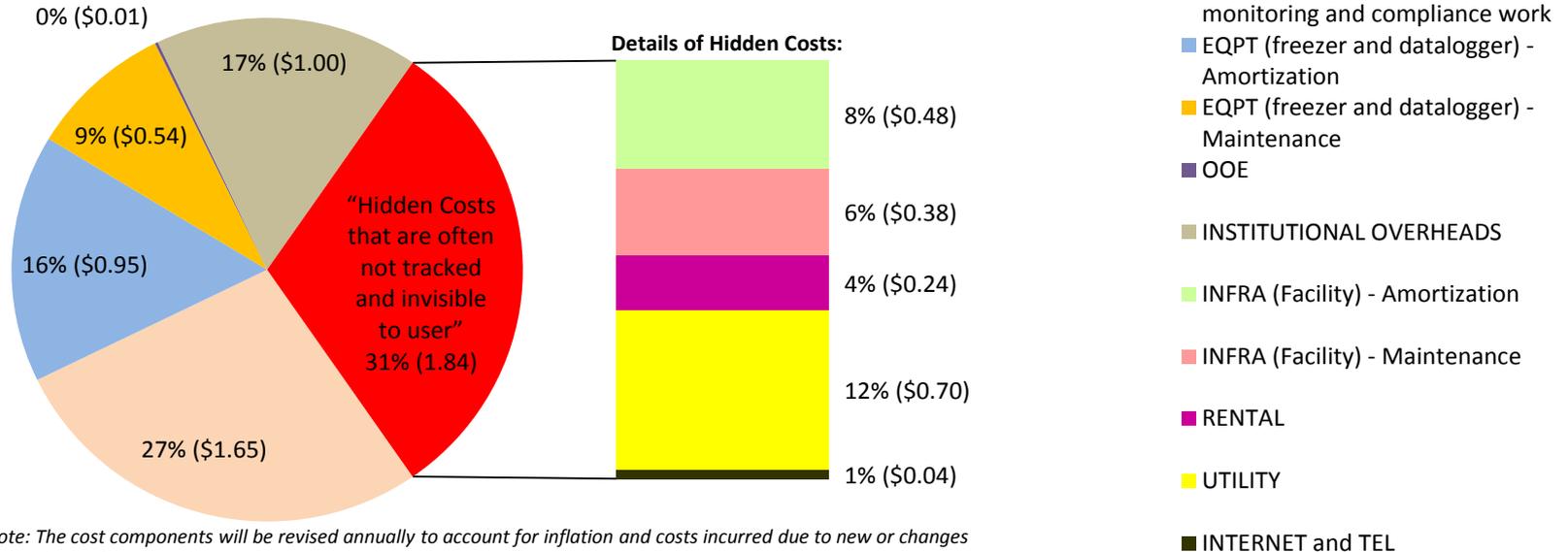


STORAGE COST FACTSHEET FOR A MECHANICAL FREEZER

Break down of the \$6.00 per box per month storage cost components



Note: The cost components will be revised annually to account for inflation and costs incurred due to new or changes in regulatory (e.g. HBRA) requirement or standard operating procedures

Price Comparison between NUH TR and Commercial Storage Services

Service Provider	Per box per month	Remarks
* Company X (written quote provided as of year 2013)	\$10.00	
* Company Y (written quote provided as of year 2013)	\$14.21	\$0.29 per 4ml or less (assume 49 tubes per box)
* Company Z (email quote provided as of year 2018)	\$6.00 - \$10.50	Price depends on quantity, duration of storage contract, nature of storage, size of vials, etc.
NUH Tissue Repository	\$6.00	

* - Commercial companies located locally are anonymously named due to Non-disclosure Agreement

STORAGE COST FACTSHEET FOR A MECHANICAL FREEZER

Frequently Asked Questions:

What is SINB or harmonize national costing?

- The Singapore Integrated Network of Bio-repositories (SINB) is an infrastructure network formed by the academic tissue repositories in Singapore.
- One of the aims of the federated network is to develop a sustainable bio-bank business model to better serve as the national tissue repository and support the academic and commercial HBMS community.
- The National Research Foundation (NRF) has indicated the need to build a financially sustainable business plan once the current grant ends. As a result, the SINB or national harmonize pricing for the purpose of fully cost recovering its bio-bank services has been made available.
- The full cost-recovery pricing structure includes the following cost component:
 - Manpower
 - Equipment amortization and maintenance
 - Other operating expenses
 - Institutional overheads
 - Hidden costs which are often invisible and not tracked by users

What is the impact to the user with the introduction of harmonizing national costing?

- The user may experience a rise in the cost compared to prior to the introduction of the harmonize national costing as the pricing model previously did not include institutional overheads and regulatory costs for HBRA compliance, among others.
- A user who embark on re-inventing the wheel will end up incurring extra task, increase in their expenses as there are “hidden costs” ^{*(Refer to chart)} to be incurred. By outsourcing the bio-bank work to a professional bio-bank, the user would be able to focus their valuable resources on their research work instead.

How do the user future-proof the impact of the rise in the cost of bio-banking work?

- The user is encouraged to budget for bio-banking work in their grant application should their future research requires such work. SINB would be able to assist the user in their grant budgeting for bio-banking requirements.