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13 October 2020

[REDACTED]

Ref: [REDACTED] H202007547

Dear [REDACTED]

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 5 October 2020 to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) for:

"Can you please advise how many revolution/amplications the PCR test for COVID-19 undergoes in New Zealand.

Can you please advise how many revolutions/amplications the PCR test for SARS COV-2 undergoes in New Zealand."

The number of cycles in a COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction and SARS-CoV-2 test reaction in New Zealand is 40.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website.

Yours sincerely



Dr Kelvin Watson
Group Manager, COVID-19 Immunisation, Testing & Supply
COVID-19 Health System Response