

133 Molesworth Street PO Box 5013 Wellington 6140 New Zealand T+64 4 496 2000

24 February 2021

By email: Ref:	H202100534	
Dear		

## Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 29 January 2021 for information regarding COVID-19 vaccines. I will respond in turn to each part of your request.

"Since vaccination won't be mandatory as per the Bill of Rights stating that individuals are free to chose undergoing medical treatment or not, can you also confirm that the "Freedom from discrimination" right will also be respected, and that those refusing vaccination won't be excluded from normal social activities: like going to school, going to work, going shopping, traveling, going to public places etc.?"

New Zealanders will be encouraged to get vaccinated to protect their health and the wellbeing of their whānau and community. The Government intends to provide free COVID-19 vaccines to all people in New Zealand and make it as accessible as possible to get vaccinated. At this stage, there are no plans to exclude people who choose not to or cannot be vaccinated from normal social activities.

"Could you please provide me all records you have that describe the isolation of 'SARS-COV-2'?"

The Ministry of Health (the Ministry) has responded to, and published, several requests relating to SARS-COV-2 and the isolation of the virus. These can be found online at the following address:

<u>www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests?year=2020.</u>

One request for information, may be of particular use to you and can be found here: <a href="https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202008173">www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h202008173</a> 7 dec 2020.pdf.

- "Could you please send me evidence that the products currently being marketed as "vaccines" are actual vaccines, with evidence showing that as vaccines do:
- they stimulate the immunity of the person receiving them,
- they disrupt transmission."

Please refer to section 4.1 of the datasheet available at the following address: www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/Datasheet/c/comirnatyinj.pdf.

"Also please provide evidence of that safety trials and studies have been peer-reviewed by independent groups unaffiliated with the WHO, or the Gates Foundation."

Please refer to the questions and answers section on the Medsafe website: <a href="https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/q-and-a.asp">www.medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/q-and-a.asp</a>. For further information, you may be interested in information at the following link: <a href="https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/Datasheet/c/comirnatyinj.pdf">www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/Datasheet/c/comirnatyinj.pdf</a>

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. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: <a href="mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz">info@ombudsman.parliament.nz</a> or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: <a href="www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests">www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests</a>.

Yours sincerely

**Emily Richards** 

Manager Office of the Deputy Director-General System Strategy and Policy

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