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17 September 2021

s 9(2)(a)

Ref: H202112042

Dear

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 8 September 2021 for information about adverse reactions following immunisation (AEFI) with the Pfizer Comirnaty vaccine. I will respond to each part of your request in turn:

1. *Can you please provide evidence to the claim that suggests 17 deaths were unlikely due to the covid vaccine ?*

This is withheld in full under section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased natural persons.

2. *The 4 deaths could not be assessed due to insufficient information therefore you can not speculate the vaccine did not cause the deaths ? So shouldn't they be counted in the Death rate until such investigation can be carried out ?*

Despite requests for further information, in some cases no more information was provided or is available. Therefore, no conclusion can be made, and these cases are included in the weekly report.

3. *Can you please tell me your investigation process , in regards to the 9 cases still under investigation.*

The process is conducted by the Centre for Adverse Reactions Monitoring (CARM) at the University of Otago, which undertakes this work under contract to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry). A link to their website can be found here: <https://nzphvc.otago.ac.nz/reporting/>.

They contact the reporter of the adverse reaction for further information and any other likely sources such as their general practitioner or hospital or government agency (e.g., ACC) depending on the circumstances of the case. This is normal procedure for all medicines. CARM follow World Health Organization guidelines to determine the likely relationship between the events and the medicine(s).

4. Out of the 31 deaths after the administration of the covid vaccine did any of the 31 people have any kind of medical, bloods, before the vaccine (Pre vaccine) that could possibly help the investigation with comparing medical notes.(Pre vaccine and Post-vaccine.

The Ministry does not hold individuals' personal medical records. Those with long-term underlying conditions will have been monitored by their healthcare professionals. Any information that is held relevant to this question is withheld in full under section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased natural persons

5. Would it be safer to require full medicals before any vaccine is administered to compare after any post vaccine death or adverse effects?

6. Vaccine drive through and door knocking is now in force.

How will the people administering the vaccine know ones medical history?

Vaccinators are trained to screen consumers for medical conditions that may impact on the vaccination. Taking a full medical history is not required. The Ministry has contracted the Immunisation Advisory Centre at the University of Auckland to lead training for vaccinators. There is more information available at: <https://covid.immune.org.nz/education/joining-covid-19-workforce/joining-covid-19-workforce-education-profession>.

On 16 September 2021 you asked the Ministry regarding the following:

*Are you aware of Post vaccine adverse events reported around New Zealand in the last week of metal objects sticking to the injection spot on the arm ?
What is causing this magnetic response?*

For reliable information regarding adverse events, please refer to:
www.medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/vaccine-report-overview.asp.

The COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine does not cause magnetism of the arm around the injection site, nor does it contain metals or ingredients that can create an electromagnetic field. The Centers for Disease Control in the United States recently addressed this myth: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html. The ingredients in the vaccine are publicly available at: www.medsafe.govt.nz/Consumers/cmi/c/comirnaty.pdf.

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: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry of Health website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases.

Yours sincerely



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Medsafe