

14 March 2022

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s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)
Ref: H202200073

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 24 December 2021 for information regarding COVID-19 vaccine exemptions.

Please find a response to each part of your request below. These figures are accurate as of 14 February 2022.

Could you please advise the total number of medical exemptions granted by MOH for those working within industries covered by the government's Covid 19 vaccine mandates.

The total number of temporary medical exemptions granted by the Director-General of Health for those who have indicated they are covered by a Vaccinations Order (VO) is 254.

Could you also please advise the total number of medical exemptions declined for those working within industries covered by the government's Covid 19 vaccine mandates.

The total number of temporary medical exemptions declined by the Director-General of Health for those who have indicated they are covered by a VO is 151.

Please note that the figures provided above are based on data taken from the temporary medical exemption application forms submitted to the Ministry. All application forms must be submitted by a medical or nurse practitioner on behalf of their patient, as members of the public cannot apply for an exemption for themselves. The application forms ask the medical or nurse practitioner submitting the application to indicate whether their patient is covered by a VO. As these figures are based on self-reporting, it is possible that other applications have been received on behalf of people working within industries subject to a VO.

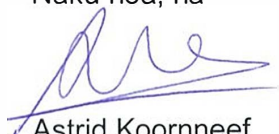
For any medical exemptions that have been granted, what medical conditions do they cover?

To be granted a temporary medical exemption, applications must be covered by the following clinical criteria: <https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/vaccine-temporary-medical-exemption-clinical-criteria-clinical-guidance-resources-includes-application-form-for-medical-practitioner-or-nurse-practitioner-to-complete-updated-jan-27-2022.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 website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Astrid', with a horizontal line drawn underneath it.

Astrid Koornneef

Director

National Immunisation Programme