

25 March 2022

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s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)
Ref: H202201088

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 8 February 2022 for information regarding COVID-19 vaccination exemptions. Please find a response to each part of your request below.

*To date, how many vaccination exemption applications have been received by MoH?
To date, how many vaccination exemption applications have been
granted/accepted/approved?
Of those applications that were declined, what were the general reasons that they were
declined?*

As at 3 March 2022, the Ministry had received a total of 2,242 COVID-19 Temporary Medical Exemption (TME) applications. Of these, a total of 735 have been granted and 813 have been declined. An application is declined because the detail provided was deemed not to meet the category criteria.

The clinical criteria the medical exemptions are granted on can be found here:
<https://www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/pages/vaccine-temporary-medical-exemption-clinical-criteria-clinical-guidance-resources-updated-mar-10-2022.docx>

In addition, as at 3 March 2022, the Ministry had received a total of 528 COVID-19 Significant Service Disruption Exemption (SSD) applications. 327 of these applications have had decisions by the Minister of COVID-19 Response, with 52 being granted and 273 being declined. The remaining applications have been withdrawn or are awaiting a decision.

I trust this 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: 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 aua, nā



Astrid Koornneef
Director
National Immunisation Programme