

29 November 2022

§ 9(2)(a)

Email: § 9(2)(a)
Ref: H2022016108

Tēnā koe § 9(2)(a)

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your follow up request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 2 November 2022 for information regarding approved medicinal cannabis products. You requested:

“Can you tell me which products on the approved medicinal cannabis products you classify as:

“products containing cannabidiol”

“products containing tetrahydrocannabinol

“products containing both tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol”

We note that your request for information follows on from the response provided to your previous OIA (H2022012727 refers). You were provided with information from section 29 reports. This is a legislatively specified reporting requirement for unapproved medicines (including medicinal cannabis products) that are supplied under section 29 of the Medicines Act. For clarity, this includes medicinal cannabis products that have been verified against the minimum quality standard. It excludes information on the supply of medicinal cannabis products with consent and medicinal cannabis products imported by a prescriber for supply to a patient under their care under section 25 of the Medicines Act.

The section 29 information is provided directly from importers/manufacturers to Medsafe. Medsafe then records the information provided by the supplier in a database from which the report provided to you is generated. When conducting searches in response to requests for information relating to section 29 supply, such as that conducted for your previous OIA request, the information is drawn from the data based on the active ingredient(s) of the product rather than the product name, dosage form etc.

Conversely, whilst the Manatū Hauora website includes information on active ingredient, it categorises products under their respective classification and dosage form. Please refer to the following link to the website:

www.health.govt.nz/our-work/regulation-health-and-disability-system/medicinal-cannabis-agency/medicinal-cannabis-agency-information-health-professionals/medicinal-cannabis-products-meet-minimum-quality-standard.

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: 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 Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris James', written in a cursive style.

Chris James
Group Manager
Medsafe