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15 November 2022

s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)  
Ref: H2022015517

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 Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health) on 26 October 2022 for information regarding health practitioners. You requested:

*“Any and all policies/documents providing guidance on the ability of health practitioners with bloodborne diseases to practice, that includes the words ‘hepatitis’, ‘hep B’, and/or ‘hepatitis B’”*

There are no documents on the ability of health practitioners with bloodborne diseases to practice. As such, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act as the information requested does not exist. However, information about hepatitis B and C is publicly available on Manatū Hauora website on the following links below:

- Hepatitis B: employers must assess infected health care workers to determine whether any work restrictions are indicated (for example, regarding exposure-prone procedures and adoption of universal precautions): [www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/communicable-disease-control-manual/hepatitis-b](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/communicable-disease-control-manual/hepatitis-b)
- Hepatitis C: [www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/communicable-disease-control-manual/hepatitis-c](http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/communicable-disease-control-manual/hepatitis-c)

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](mailto: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](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā



Nicholas Jones  
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Public Health Agency, Ministry of Health | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui