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24 January 2023

s 9(2)(a)

Email: s 9(2)(a)
Ref: H2022018201

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 (Ministry of Health) on 7 December 2022 for information regarding guidelines for COVID-19 vaccination of children. You requested:

1. *Please provide a copy of the latest guidelines for vaccination of children.*

All information on COVID-19 vaccination for children is publicly available on the Ministry website here: [COVID-19 vaccine: Children aged 5 to 11 | Ministry of Health NZ](#) [COVID-19 vaccine: Ages 12 to 18 | Ministry of Health NZ](#).

2. *When did the Ministry last consider its guidelines?*

Manatū Hauora continues to monitor COVID-19 vaccination guidelines for children through the COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group (CV TAG). The last advice issued by CV TAG to the Ministry's Director-General on vaccines for children was on 24 November 2022 which included recommendations on the paediatric Pfizer vaccine for children aged 6 months to 4 years. This advice is available on the Ministry website here: [COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group \(CV TAG\) | Ministry of Health NZ](#).

3. *When is it next due to reconsider its guidelines?*

CV TAG met on 6 December 2022 and the review of current booster guidelines for children was included as an agenda item. The outcome of the meeting is yet to be finalised.

4. *Is there an anticipated change to its guidelines?*

The outcome of the meeting is yet to be finalised. When the advice is available, it will be on the Manatū Hauora website here: [COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group \(CV TAG\) | Ministry of Health NZ](#).

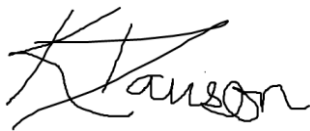
5. *We attach an article published in the United Kingdom which puts in issue vaccination of young children at this time. Is the Ministry aware of this research? And does it have a view about it?*

There have been recent changes in vaccination policy and guidelines within some countries. Manatū Hauora is aware of this and will continue to monitor all relevant information including but not limited to, vaccine efficacy, safety, and risk of adverse outcomes in children. Recommendations will be updated as further evidence becomes available.

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.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kristen Davison', written in a cursive style.

Kristen Davison
**Acting Interim Group Manager, Intelligence, Surveillance & Knowledge
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui
Manatū Hauora | Ministry of Health**