

14 March 2024

s 9(2)(a)

Ref: H2024036434

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 – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 21 February 2024 for:

“Can you please provide the latest breakdown of Medicinal Cannabis Product pack sales from June 2023 until most recent please. Broken out by month and also CBD, THC and Balanced “

Data for some of the requested time period is publicly available on the Ministry website:

- June 2023 to August 2023: www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h2023031735_response.pdf
- September 2023 to October 2023: www.health.govt.nz/system/files/documents/information-release/h2023033570_response.pdf.

The table attached as Appendix 1 provides the number of packs of medicinal cannabis products that have been verified as meeting the minimum quality standard and have been supplied under the exemption provisions in section 29 of the Medicines Act 1981 for the period of 1 November 2023 to 31 December 2023.

The reporting information is required to be supplied to Medsafe as soon as possible in the month after supply. As your request was received in February 2024, only data for supply up to December 2023 were able to be generated.

When considering these data, it is important to note:

- That the number of packs supplied cannot be used to determine the number of prescriptions or the number of patients or the number of doses.
- Reporting information is supplied retrospectively and therefore the number of packs reported as supplied may change if additional reports are received.
- Sativex and Epidyolex have consent for distribution as a medicine, and so the reporting requirements associated with the supply of unapproved medicines in section 29 of the Medicines Act do not apply. The data provided do not include the number of packs of Sativex or Epidyolex supplied.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

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 blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris James', is positioned above the typed name.

Chris James
Group Manager
Medsafe

APPENDIX 1

Number of packs of products containing cannabidiol only

2023

Month	Nov	Dec
No. of packs	6644	5557

Number of Packs of products containing tetrahydrocannabinol only

2023

Month	Nov	Dec
No. of packs	324	1036

Number of Packs of products containing both tetrahydrocannabinol and cannabidiol

2023

Month	Nov	Dec
No. of packs	9378	8994

Released under the Official Information Act 1982