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18 April 2024

s 9(2)(a)

Ref: H2024038239

Tēnā koe s 9(2)

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), which was transferred from Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ) on 22 March 2024. You requested:

“I seek the dates of issue, (and promulgation) by the Ministry of Health, of the directives the Ministry made informing doctors of the need to treat unvaccinated patients. These occurred in or around November/December 2021 however I require the actual issue dates of this directive.”

Under section 31 of the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Protection Framework) Order 2021 (‘the CPF Order’), health services that met the definition of a “designated premises” were not permitted to deny a person, other than a worker, entry to the premises on vaccination grounds. The definition of “designated premises” included a list of settings open to the public, such as:

- pharmacies
- health services partly or wholly funded by the Ministry, a district health board, or the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC).

The CPF Order came into effect at 11.59pm on 2 December 2021 and is publicly available at www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2021/0386/23.0/LMS563461.html.

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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 black ink, appearing to be the initials 'JU' or similar, written in a cursive style.

Tagaloa Dr Junior Ulu
Acting Deputy Director-General
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui