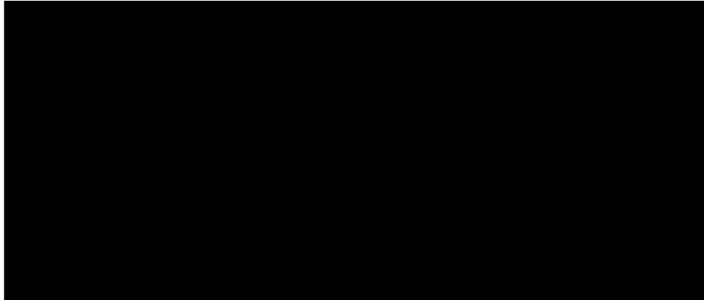


20 JUN 2019

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Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request for information of 23 May 2019 under the Official Information Act 1982 on applications for medicinal cannabis research licences. My response to each of your requests is as follows:

"1. The number of application you have received for a medical Cannabis Research Licence."

The number of applications received for licences to cultivate cannabis for medical or scientific research is 78.

"2. The number approved."

The number of applications approved to date is eight.

"3. The number that have been rejected."

The number that have been withdrawn, declined or not considered further is 43.

"4. The reasons for rejections."

Most applications are not successful because either they are not for the purpose of scientific or medical research, or they do not meet the required standards.

"5. Time it takes for approval once the application is received by MOH. (Indicative only)"

It takes approximately three to four months for a successful application, from the receipt of the application to the issuing of a licence. The time taken is dependent on the quality of the application. The time includes the assessment of the initial application, receiving responses to requests for further information, and on-site audits.

"6. How many applications are awaiting approval or to be processed."

A total of 27 applications are currently under consideration.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Please note that this letter, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry of Health website.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris James'.

Chris James
Group Manager
Medsafe