

9 September 2020

By email: [REDACTED]
Ref: H202006136

Dear [REDACTED]

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 13 August 2020 for:

"I am wondering whether you can provide details on the number of approved medical cannabis patients in New Zealand at the moment, or otherwise some measure of the activity such as the sale in kg of cannabis medicines?"

There are currently 225 active Ministerial approvals to prescribe Sativex or other medicinal cannabis products to a specific patient, under regulation 22 of the Misuse of Drugs Regulations 1977.

Please note that the above number does not include the number of patients being prescribed cannabidiol (CBD) products or Sativex prescribed after 1 April 2020, as Ministerial approval is not required in these circumstances. The Ministry does not keep a record of these.

I trust this information fulfils your request. Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Medsafe website.

Yours sincerely



Chris James
**Licensing Authority
Medicinal Cannabis Agency**