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27 October 2022

s 9(2)(a)

By email: s 9(2)(a)

Ref: H2022013603

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) received by Manatū Hauora (the Ministry of Health), the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (DPMC) and the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) on 28 September 2022 regarding multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). You requested:

*“Given the risk to public health should multidrug-resistant tuberculosis be introduced to New Zealand and a higher risk of developing HIV, please provide the following information:*

- (a) What health screening and tests will the Ukraine immigrants be required to undertake prior to arriving in New Zealand?*
- (b) What health screening and tests will the Ukraine immigrants be required to undertake on arrival in New Zealand?*
- (c) Will the health screening and tests be mandatory or voluntary?*
- (d) Will the immigrant be able to refuse any health screen, health screens, test and/or tests?*
- (e) What information is being given to public health authorities and doctors about the risk of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and HIV in the Ukrainian population? What information is being given to public health authorities and doctors about the risk of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and HIV in the Ukrainian population?*
- (f) What information is being given to the public about the risk of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and HIV?*
- (g) Will the detection of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and/or HIV in potential immigrants provide sufficient grounds for the refusal of entry into New Zealand?*
- (h) How many immigrants are allowed to enter New Zealand on a Special Visa?*
- (i) Please provide a copy of the risk assessment undertaken by the Government in regards to the risk of multidrug-resistant tuberculosis and HIV in regards to the Special Visa.*

*(c) Will the health screening and tests be mandatory or voluntary?*

*(j) Please provide us with the estimated cost to the New Zealand taxpayer for the Special Visa scheme?*

*(k) Please provide a copy of all documents that shows how the Government has prepared for an increase in hostility between New Zealand Russian and Ukrainian communities.”*

Parts a, b, c d, g, h, i, j and k are more closely connected to the functions of Immigration New Zealand. However, given your request was also received by MBIE, a formal transfer is not necessary.

Regarding parts e and f of your request, Manatū Hauora is providing you with a table summarising our communications and engagement regarding multidrug- resistant tuberculosis and HIV.

**Communications and Engagement (9 May 2022 – 6 October 2022)**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Audience</b>	<b>Information provided</b>
9 May 2022	Royal New Zealand College of GPs	Initial primary care information including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• mental health (Ukraine rates of suicide, alcohol use, major depressive disorder)</li><li>• tuberculosis (Ukraine incidence rates, burden of multi drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDR-TB))</li><li>• polio (information on status in Ukraine and vaccine information)</li><li>• measles (latest information on outbreak and vaccination)</li><li>• HIV (rates and screening)</li></ul>
2 June 2022	Ukrainian sponsors, Ukrainian arrivals and wider Ukrainian community	Online health hui. Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the Special Ukraine Policy Visa details (i.e. eligibility to health services)</li><li>• introduction to the health system (eligibility to services, immunisations, Healthline, urgent case, after hours, dental care, maternity care, eye care, COVID-19 vaccination)</li></ul>

Date	Audience	Information provided
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>tuberculosis (what is tuberculosis, how tuberculosis travels, screening, treatment)</li> </ul>
9 June 2022	Public Health Unit Service Managers	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>background and referral pathway for TB screening</li> </ul>
30 June 2022	Primary Care Clinical Leaders Forum	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>background</li> <li>tuberculosis in Ukraine (rates, interruptions in treatment)</li> <li>regular INZ health screening requirements and how TB travels</li> <li>referral pathway for TB screening</li> </ul>
4 July 2022	Health NZ leadership team	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>primary care to refer all recent Ukrainian arrivals (16yrs +) for publicly funded chest X-rays, to screen for tuberculosis.</li> </ul>
5 July 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Royal New Zealand College of GP</li> <li>GPNZ</li> <li>Hauora Taiwhenua</li> </ul>	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Background</li> <li>Visa information</li> <li>Rates of TB and MDRTB in Ukraine</li> <li>TB presentation</li> <li>TB screening</li> <li>TB treatment.</li> </ul>
8 September 2022  15 September 2022	Royal NZ College of GPs engagement on the health response	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>background information</li> <li>health assessment and access</li> <li>health pathways</li> <li>get feedback and answer any questions.</li> </ul>

Date	Audience	Information provided
22 September 2022	Clinicians working for Whakarongorau Aotearoa on 22 September.	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• background information</li> <li>• health assessment and access</li> <li>• health pathways</li> <li>• get feedback and answer any questions.</li> </ul>
22 September 2022	GP Clinical Leaders	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• background information</li> <li>• health assessment and access</li> <li>• health pathways</li> <li>• get feedback and answer any questions.</li> </ul>
29 September 2022	National Public Health Ops Groups PHS sector meeting	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background</li> <li>• Overview of the referral pathway</li> <li>• Role of public health</li> </ul>
5 October 2022	Refugee health communities of practice	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Details on health assessment pathway</li> </ul>
12-13 October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PHO CEs</li> <li>• GPNZ</li> <li>• RNZCGP</li> <li>• RNZCUC</li> <li>• Hauora Taiwhenua</li> <li>• Hospital National CMOs</li> <li>• Thoracic Society of Australia and NZ New Zealand</li> <li>• NZ Bug</li> <li>• Paediatric Society NZ</li> <li>• MDRTB Clinical Network</li> </ul>	Information to be provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• background information</li> <li>• detailed information about health assessment and access, including service specifications</li> <li>• health pathways</li> </ul>

Date	Audience	Information provided
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Te Whatu Ora National Public Health Service</li> <li>Refugee health providers</li> <li>Whakaraungorau Aotearoa</li> <li>Director of Public Health</li> <li>Deputy-Director General of Public Health Agency</li> </ul>	
15 October 2022	In person community hui	Information provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eligibility to public health system</li> <li>Introduction to NZ health system</li> <li>How to access the free health assessment</li> </ul>
May 2022-ongoing	Continuous engagement with community groups, primary care and public health	Provide information and answer questions as needed

#### **Planned communications and engagement – (October 2022 )**

Date	Audience	Link/information provided
26 October 2022	Online community hui to provide information about the NZ health system and information about access to free health screening	Information to be provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eligibility to public health system</li> <li>Introduction to NZ health system</li> <li>How to access the free health assessment</li> </ul>

There are also a number of Manatū Hauora and Te Whatu Ora information resources provided to the community and health professionals, including:

- Te Whatu Ora website: landing page for Ukrainian community and health professionals
- TB factsheet

- Q and As for community and health professionals
- Information sheet/pamphlet (hard-copy)
- Health Pathways national resource on Health Pathways web platform for health professionals.

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. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto: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](http://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 'Ross Bell', written over a faint, illegible stamp or background.

**Ross Bell**  
Lead, Equity & Population Health  
Public Health Agency