

29 June 2023

s 9(2)(a)

Ref: H2023027666

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 Manatū Haoura (the Ministry of Health) on 22 June 2023 for information regarding Medsafe COVID-19 vaccine safety reports. You requested:

*“It has been brought to my attention by a number of members of the public that Safety report number 47 whilst originally posted on the website has now been withdrawn. This search would normally locate this safety report in sequence with the others published on the MedSafe website:*

*<https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/safety-report-47.asp>*

*May I respectfully remind you that this is a Public Record,*

*Neither the Medsafe webmaster nor staff have any right to delete public records.*

*I notice that it has also been deleted from Internet archive retrieval tools.*

*I require you to please re-instate the original Report 47, and email me by reply the original version, thank you”*

To confirm, there is no safety report number 47. The final report published on the Medsafe website was safety report number 46. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(e) of the Act, as the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist.

Medsafe will continue to publish safety information for COVID-19 vaccines on our website in line with the information published for all other medicines and vaccines approved for use in New Zealand. However, this will no longer be in the previous format of safety reports for COVID-19 vaccines.

Due to the reduced number of COVID-19 vaccines being administered and therefore reduced numbers of adverse events following immunisation (AEFI) being reported, AEFI data from 30 November 2022, that would have previously been published in the COVID-19 safety reports is currently withheld under the following grounds of the Act:

- Section 9(2)(a) to protect the privacy of natural persons;
- Section 9(2)(ba)(i) protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence, where the making available of the information— would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information
- Section 9(2)(c) to avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public.

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](mailto: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](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



Chris James  
**Group Manager**  
**Medsafe**