

05 October 2021



Anthony Jordan

fyi-request-16687-xxxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xxx.xxx.xx

Tēnā koe Anthony

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-013945

Thank you for your email of 10 September 2021, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Please provide the following where possible:

1. *Evidence-based research to support the newly implemented Rongoā Māori services*
2. *Types of Rongoā Māori Treatments available to those with Concussion/Mild Traumatic Brain Injury*

ACC's funding of rongoā Māori services

ACC funds rongoā Māori services as a social rehabilitation entitlement, with the aim to help people return to independence. We do not fund the service as a treatment entitlement, and accordingly, our decision to fund this service is not based on clinical evidence. For this reason, we are refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist.

The policy work that led to ACC's decision to fund rongoā Māori looked at a range of research. This included the following (links included):

- [Acknowledging the Māori Cultural Values and Beliefs Embedded in Rongoā Māori Healing](#)
- [Ngā Tohu o te Ora: Traditional Māori Healing and Wellness Outcomes](#)
- [Governing bodies: a Māori healing tradition in a bicultural state](#)
- [Ko Aotearoa Tēnei \(A Report into Claims Concerning New Zealand Law and Policy Affecting Māori Culture and Identity\)](#)
- [Rongoā Māori \(Traditional Māori healing\) through the eyes of Māori healers: Sharing the Healing while Keeping the Tapu](#)
- [The future of rongoā Maori: wellbeing and sustainability. A summary \(2008\)](#)

Rongoā Māori treatment for Concussion/Mild Traumatic Brain Injury

Under the Accident Compensation Act 2001 (the AC Act), there are eight services specified under Social Rehabilitation. Requests for rongoā Māori services fall under 'other social rehabilitation' and all such requests are considered on a case-by-case basis, as they are not the standard therapies that ACC usually funds. Funding for services covered under 'other social rehabilitation' are approved with the aim to help people return to independence.

As the need for rongoā Māori services is considered on a case-by-case basis, ACC does not have a list of services available for specific injuries. Therefore, we are refusing this part of your request under section 18(e) of the Act as the information does not exist.

Further information about rongoā Māori

Further information on rongoā Māori services can be found at <https://www.acc.co.nz/im-injured/what-we-cover/using-rongoaa-maori-services/>.

The criteria for eligibility for rongoā Māori are the same as those for all services under other social rehabilitation which is set out under section 82 of the AC Act. Section 82 of the AC Act can be found here: www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2001/0049/latest/DLM101428.html.

Questions about this response

If you have any questions, you can email me at GovernmentServicxx@xxx.xx.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

Nāku iti noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sasha Wood', written in a cursive style.

Sasha Wood
Manager Official Information Act Services
Government Engagement & Support