

6 November 2023

Chris McCashin
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Tēnā koe Chris,

Your request for Official information, reference: HNZ00030914

Thank you for your email on 3 October 2023, asking for the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

“If this is the case then how are you completing the background rates that you have come up with?”

A follow up

- Please provide all of the datasets used, inputs, variables formulas used to obtain the background rates used in the Medsafe reports for all of the safety signals identified in the Medsafe Reports

Unless we know that accurate baseline data is being used and datasets are compared accurately then you really aren't able to give us proper information. For example, even if there were 100 extra cases of Myocarditis (which I doubt because before the vaccine nobody had it) diagnosed by primary health providers there has still been a 7000% increase from the vaccine and we are just getting fudged statistics to try and hide the true damage.

So I can't quite work out if you are in cover up mode or we need to call out the competence of the agency and ability to do the job properly.”

The method used to estimate the average background rates for each of the medical conditions is as follows:

For the years 2016-2019, all hospitalisation events in the National Minimum Data Set that had a diagnosis code (ICD-10 codes) that matched the definitions of each medical condition were counted and then divided by the number of years to get an average number of hospitalisations in a year in that time period.

The raw data referred to is withheld in full under section 9(2)(a) of the Act, to protect the privacy of natural persons. The need to protect the privacy of individuals is not outweighed by the public interest in the release of this information.

More information around hospitalisation events can be found www.health.govt.nz/nz-health-statistics/health-statistics-and-data-sets/hospital-event-data-and-stats.

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@health.govt.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.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Te Whatu Ora may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Rachel Mackay
Acting Director, Prevention
National Public Health Service
Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand