



9 January 2024

Gunjan

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File No: DOIA 2324-1283

Dear Gunjan,

I refer to your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) received on 5 December 2023 requesting the following information from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (Ministry):

*“Please provide missing documents*

- 1. INZ 1378 medical assessor guidelines*
- 2. ASH conditions even if they are noted on medical exam.*
- 3. Single point failure guideline*
- 4. Multipoint failure guideline*
- 5. In documents I read wording “chronic conditions cost over the predictive course of condition” chronic conditions like diabetes or Hypertension require medication to be taken life long so when costing is calculated, how the life of applicant is predicted to calculate the cost over predictive course? It is not clear from documents given on what basis or how HAT team decide on life of applicant to calculate cost for chronic conditions?*
- 6. Is there any list of medication costing to suggest monthly cost for medication?”.*

## **Our Response**

### **Point one – INZ 1378 medical assessor guidelines**

I have attached the INZ 1378 Medical Assessors Guidelines as **Appendix one**.

Please note: In your previous request (ref: DOIA 2324-1025) it only specified the supplementary guidelines used by Immigration New Zealand (INZ) Medical Assessors rather than requesting INZ 1378 medical assessor guidelines.

### **Point two – ASH conditions even if they are noted on medical exams**

There is no list of ASH conditions, even if they noted on a medical exam, there is no list of ASH conditions.

### **Points three and four – single point failure and multipoint failure guidelines**

I have attached the single failure points and multiple failure points documents as **Appendix one**.

### **Point five – calculation of cost for chronic conditions**

Where a visa applicant has a chronic medical condition such as diabetes or hypertension, Medical Assessors will consider the likelihood of any high-cost medications or medical interventions being required, and whether the services required are already under significant demand.



Where a medical condition is well managed and treated through generic routine medications which are readily available, it would not be common practice for a Medical Assessor to consider the cumulative lifetime costs of medications or primary healthcare needs.

**Point six – list of medication costing to suggest monthly cost for medication**

The Medical Assessors are guided by the information listed on the PHARMAC website and by the advice provided to them by the applicants' themselves.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz) or freephone 0800 802 602.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact [inzoias@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:inzoias@mbie.govt.nz).

Nāku noa, nā

Richard Owen  
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Immigration New Zealand  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment

