

19 January 2022
[REDACTED]

Tēnā koe

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-015853

Thank you for your email of 7 December 2021, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *How many people have pericarditis now from the vax*

Background information about treatment injury and vaccine data

ACC has provided cover for treatment injuries since 1 July 2005. The treatment injury provisions replaced the medical misadventure provisions of the Accident Compensation Act 2001, to bring it more in line with the no-fault nature of the scheme.

A treatment injury is a personal injury caused as a result of seeking or receiving medical treatment from, or at the direction of, a registered health professional. In order to fulfil the criteria for cover, the person must have suffered a personal injury and there must be a clear causal link between the treatment and the injury, and the injury must not be a necessary part or ordinary consequence of the treatment.

When considering treatment injury data, it is important to note that the number of claims lodged with ACC cannot be taken as an accurate indication of the occurrence of injury during treatment or the quality of care. This is because, among other reasons, not all occurrences of injury during treatment are lodged with ACC.

Please note that we can only respond based on the vaccine related claims lodged with ACC, and the figures may differ to those previously reported or supplied. Up-to-date data on the number of adverse effects reported from the COVID-19 vaccine can be found on the MedSafe website here:

<https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/vaccine-report-overview.asp>

Further information about treatment injury can be found at the following links:

- <https://www.acc.co.nz/for-providers/treatment-safety/> and
- <https://www.acc.co.nz/assets/provider/ACC7971-Supporting-Treatment-Safety-2021.pdf> (overview of treatment injury in public and private surgical hospitals and general practice settings).

Claim lodgement rates are dependent on several factors. They can be influenced by:

- Population demography i.e. the characteristics of the resident population, visitors and referred patients
- Health status of the population treated
- What level of facility the organisation provides i.e. tertiary versus secondary
- Familiarity of health providers or clients in recognising and/or lodging treatment injury claims.

Covid-19 vaccine related treatment injury claims

The data below was extracted on 13 December 2021, for treatment injury claims where the treatment event was *vaccination or injection/medications, adverse reaction/medication error* and where the medication type was recorded as *vaccine*.

However, as these fields are only completed when cover for the claim is decided, the figures provided have been supplemented by a text search of the claim forms received by ACC which mention *Comirnaty* (the name of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine), or included the terms *covid* or *Pfizer* and *vacc*. This text search allows us to identify claims that have been lodged but where cover has not yet been decided.

Covid-19 claims related to pericarditis

To identify Covid-19 vaccine claims related to *pericarditis*, an additional free text search of the injury diagnosis field for the term *pericarditis* was conducted.

In the period 1 December 2019 to 11 December 2021, ACC accepted 19 claims where the terms *pericarditis* or *myopericarditis* were used in the injury diagnosis field. All these claims related to the Comirnaty Covid-19 vaccine.

Further Covid-19 vaccine data and information available online

ACC has recently published two data sets related to COVID-19 vaccines one on the data.govt.nz site which can be found here: <https://catalogue.data.govt.nz/dataset/3d063af7-b605-411b-8a08-cdc6c305b23/resource/9e004154-c3f1-4398-944f-443970fe803b/download/gov-014568-response.pdf>

The other dataset has been published with up to date data on ACC's website here:

<https://www.acc.co.nz/assets/oia-responses/IPA5312-Covid-Vaccination-Claims-Refresh-Dec21.pdf>

Please note this dataset will be updated monthly.

Also, on our website are the published OIAs on this topic which can be found here:

<https://www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12>.

Who to contact

If you have any questions, you can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz

This information may be of interest to other members of the public, ACC has decided to proactively release a copy of this response on ACC's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available [here](#).

Nāku iti noa, nā



Sasha Wood

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