



13 April 2023

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-023980

Thank you for your email of 20 March 2023, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I am trying to find out if any cases of ITP (thrombocytopenia) have been reported in New Zealand as a side effect of the Pfizer vaccine.

On 3 April 2023, after we provided publicly available information in response to the above question, you asked for the following information:

I would like to request that you supply the number of ACC claims related to the Covid 19 vaccine where ITP is recorded as the injury, and the outcome of the claims if possible.

ACC has received fewer than four claims for ITP injuries relating to COVID-19 vaccination; all of which were accepted for cover

In providing this data we have only indicated that the claim count is fewer than four. This limits the potential for individuals or matters specific to certain individuals from being identified. This decision has been made under section 9(2)(a) of the Act.

In doing so, we have considered the public interest in making the information available and have determined that it does not outweigh the need to protect our clients' privacy.

Please refer to the following points for further information about the data:

- The data was extracted on 3 April 2023 for treatment injury claims lodged between 18 February 2021 (when New Zealand began COVID-19 vaccinations) and 1 April 2023.
- Claims were included where the treatment event was vaccination or injection/medications, adverse reaction/medication error and where the medication type was recorded as vaccine.
- As some fields are only completed once a cover decision is made, the figure was supplemented by a free text search of the claim forms received which mention the following key words: Comirnaty, AstraZeneca, Vaxzevria, Novavax, Nuvaxovid, or included the terms covid or Pfizer together with 'vacc' or 'injection.' This text search allowed us to identify any claims that were lodged but where a cover decision had not yet been made.
- ITP claims have been identified where terms ITP or thrombocytopenia have been referenced in the primary injury, comment fields, or injury diagnosis of the treatment injury database.
- All extracted claims have been clinically reviewed.
- The specific COVID-19 vaccine cannot be reliably determined. This is because the vaccine is not always identified on the ACC45 form or elsewhere on the claim.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public

ACC may decide 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 www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12.

If you have any questions about this response, please get in touch

You can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz. If you are not happy with this response, you can also contact the Ombudsman via info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz.

Ngā mihi



Sara Freitag

Acting Manager Official Information Act Services

Government Engagement