

25 March 2020

Jan MacPherosn

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Tēnā koe Jan

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-004130

Thank you for your request of 9 March 2020, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

We seek information from 2009 to 2019 on the number of covered claims for cervical disc herniation or other cervical damage as a work related gradual process injury for those people involved in the flooring industry (sanding, laying etc)

Cover for work-related gradual process injuries is determined by ACC's legislation

As you are aware, ACC provides cover for work-related gradual process, disease and infection (WRGPDI) in accordance to section 30 of the Accident Compensation Act.

Notes about the data provided

The claims data in Table 1 below has been extracted for accepted WRGPDI claims for cervical damage, lodged with ACC between the 2009 and 2019 calendar years, where the read code associated with the claim contained the term *cervical*.

Notes about the data in general:

- The claims have been counted by date they were lodged with ACC. A claim can be lodged immediately after an injury or at a later date.
- Claims related to the flooring industry have been identified where the levy classification was *Tiling and carpeting services*.
- Accredited employer claims have been excluded as ACC holds limited data about these.
- The data was extracted on 13 March 2020 and may differ if re-run at a later date.

ACC takes privacy seriously

ACC does not routinely release low value claim counts. Accordingly, most entries in the table provided only indicate that the value is fewer than four (denoted as <4). This limits the potential for individuals or matters specific to certain individuals from being identified. Withholding in this way is necessary to protect the privacy of these individuals 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 the privacy of these persons.

Table 1. Number of registered claims for cervical related gradual process claims for flooring and tiling occupations, by calendar year

Read code	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Cervical disc prolapse with radiculopathy	<4	0	<4	0	0	0	<4	0	<4	0
Cervicalgia – neck pain	0	0	<4	<4	0	<4	0	0	0	0

How to contact us

If you have any questions, you can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.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', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Sasha Wood

Acting Manager Official Information Act Services
Government Engagement & Support