

3 December 2013

J Dylan
fyi-request-1291-ea295147@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear J Dylan

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your request of 8 November 2013, asking under the Official Information Act 1982, for the details of the Brands, Models and Wholesale prices of digital hearing aids authorised by ACC.

ACC does not have a list of hearing aids that it authorises. Instead ACC and/or the Ministry of Health provide a contribution towards the purchase of hearing aids for people with hearing loss caused by a covered injury, or a combination of a covered injury and other health factors.

This contribution allows people, in consultation with an audiologist, to choose the hearing aid that best suits their needs and personal preferences. Therefore, ACC is unable to provide you with the information you requested because it does not purchase hearing aids directly. This decision complies with section 18(e) of the Act.

The New Zealand Audiological Society website advises that there are over 300 types and models of hearing aids available in New Zealand. Audiologist have access to this range of choices and will provide the best advice as to what style of hearing aid best suits a persons' hearing needs and budget.

For further information, the ACC5647 'Your guide to help for hearing loss' can be found at www.acc.co.nz/making-a-claim/what-support-can-i-get/eci0018. This booklet explains the different levels of funding available from both ACC and the Ministry of Health. The Ministry of Health's website [Guide to Getting Hearing Aids: Hearing Aid Funding Scheme | Ministry of Health NZ](#) also provides details of the type of funding available towards hearing loss.

We're happy to answer your questions

Please contact me at anne.fitzgerald@acc.co.nz if you would like to talk about the information we've provided. I'll be happy to answer any questions or, if you have any concerns, work with you to resolve these.

If you're still not happy, you may make a complaint to the Office of the Ombudsmen. You can call them on 0800 802 602, 9am to 5pm weekdays, or write to: The Office of the Ombudsmen, PO Box 10 152, WELLINGTON 6143

Yours sincerely



Anne Fitzgerald
Advisor, Government Services