

Virginia Crawford

By email: fyi-request-14580-fcd8e34d@requests.fyi.org.nz  
Ref: H202100542

Dear Virginia Crawford

**Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 30 January 2021 for:

*"In 2017 New Zealand purchased 23,140 Kg of "test kits" with a total value of US\$92,221.86.*

*Practically every country in the world also purchased these test kits.*

*The product code was 300215.*

*Could you please let me know*

*(1) what the exact labelling was on these test kits?*

*(2) what was the rationale behind purchasing these test kits at that time?"*

The Ministry of Health does not hold any information pertaining to the above referenced test kits imported into New Zealand during 2017. Therefore, your request is refused under section 18(g) of the Act. Please be advised that such test kits are medical devices and are not required under the Medicines Act 1981, to be assessed and approved before importation. They are also exempt from the requirement to notify the Web Assisted Notification of Devices, which is a Medsafe operated database.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review my decision to refuse your request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Nick Allan  
**Manager OIA Services**  
**Office of the Director-General**