

30 June 2021

Ross Francis

By email: fyi-request-15701-02179df0@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202106899

Tēnā koe Ross Francis

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 08 June 2021 for information from the Norwegian Medicines Agency around Pfizer Covid-19 Vaccine:

"Between 27 December 2020 to 15 February 2021, the Norwegian Medicines Agency received 100 reports of suspected fatal adverse reactions to the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine. An expert group was subsequently set up to investigate the deaths, which had occurred among nursing home residents. On 19 May 2021, it reported its findings. A causal link to the vaccine was considered likely in 10 cases and possible in a further 26 cases. The experts concluded that it was "reasonable to assume that adverse effects from the vaccine in very frail patients can trigger a cascade of new complications which, in the worst case, end up expediting death".

Please supply me with all information, if any, that is given to vaccinators in New Zealand about the risk of premature death from the Pfizer vaccine among those with limited life expectancy.

In the current COVID-19 training courses for vaccinators, there is no information provided about risk of premature death from the Pfizer vaccine among those with limited life expectancy.

Please supply me with all information, if any, the Ministry has received and disseminated about the Norwegian expert group's findings. That includes emails and deleted emails."

The Ministry has not received any information as described in your request. Therefore, this part of your request is refused under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as it is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

Under section 28(3) of the Act you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā



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