Paul Jones



Via email: fyi-request-16196-298e0a12@requests.fyi.org.nz

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Tēnā koe Paul

Official Information Act Request - OIA 13668 Information Provided to Students

On 26 July 2021, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

With reference to the following news article;

 $\label{lem:https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.rnz.co.nz%2Fnews%2Fnational%2F446530%2Fcovid-19-whanganui-high-school-community-to-receive-vaccine&data=04%7C01%7C%7C2e32654f6c5f419a707c08d94ff9fa28%7C57422901a1744b53b066a615aac6426c%7C0%7C0%7C637628758560820075%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=z8WTczDiu%2BQXsthc%2F2CMF%2FWruxc50myKMjNSRcCeNOI%3D&reserved=0$

We quote the following;

"Whanganui District Health Board spokesperson Bruce Jones told First Up students over 16 were able to consent for themselves and they had provided education on informed consent.

If whānau did not want their students to be vaccinated at school, we've got a bit of a process where we can have a list of students that aren't to be vaccinated at school and we'll just make sure we honour their wishes that way."

Our request under the Official Information Act.

- 1) Please provide the documentation and information given to parents of students over 16 related to consenting or declining the COVID vaccine.
- 2) Please indicate if Health professional/s will be making presentations to children on school grounds to influence their decision on consenting to the vaccine.
- 3) If Health professional/s are making presentations, then please provide that material for our review.

Whanganui District Health Boards response:

- 1) Please provide the documentation and information given to parents of students over 16 related to consenting or declining the COVID vaccine. School leaders have been given several resources to distribute to their communities as they see fit. Please find attached.
- 2) Please indicate if Health professional/s will be making presentations to children on school grounds to influence their decision on consenting to the vaccine.
 Health professionals from the Public Health Centre and The Immunisation Advisory Centre have

Health professionals from the Public Health Centre and The Immunisation Advisory Centre have presented to school students 16 years and above. Information sessions were held at the school in co-operation with school management. These sessions were not designed or intended to 'influence'

Chief Executive | Phone 06 348 3140

students, rather give them the opportunity to make an informed decision about the receiving the vaccine. This aligns with the Code of Health and Disability Service Consumers Rights, which is detailed below from the Ministry of Health Website. Sessions gave students the opportunity to ask questions and any misinformation or myths around the Pfizer vaccine were addressed in accordance with the latest evidence-based information at the time of the presentation.

Your rights

When you use a health or disability service, your rights are protected by the Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights.

Your rights under the code include:

- a right to receive the information you need to make decisions about your health and about any tests, procedures or treatments
- · a right to have information provided in a way that you understand
- a right to make an informed choice and give your informed consent before you undergo a test, procedure or treatment
- a right to be treated with respect and dignity, taking into account your cultural needs and values
- · a right to have a support person with you, at most times
- · a right to services being provided with reasonable care and skill
- · a right to complain about a provider, in a way that is appropriate for you.

3) If Health professional/s are making presentations, then please provide that material for our review.

Topics covered during the presentation were Coronaviruses, COVID-19 Epidemiology, Vaccine development and safety, ComirnatyTM (Pfizer/BioNTech) vaccine, ingredients, clinical trial process, how the vaccine works, safety profile in teenagers, possible side effects, rate and risk of anaphylaxis, expected length of immunity, other public health precautions (hand-washing, QR code scanning, staying home if unwell), ComirnatyTM is free and not compulsory. The content of these presentations were reviewed and approved by the Immunisation Advisory Centre based at the University of Auckland.

Websites Used:

https://www.medsafe.govt.nz/profs/Datasheet/c/comirnatyinj.pdf

https://covid19.who.int/
WHO Coronavirus Dashboard

https://covid19.govt.nz/ NZ Govt Unite against COVID-19 website

https://covid.immune.org.nz/ IMAC COVID-19 EDUCATION website

https://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/makingvaccines/prevent-covid Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Q and As about COVID-19 Vaccines

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz

Ngā mihi

Russell Simpson
Chief Executive

COVID-19 Videos and Resources

Ruthie's story – interview (2min 30 sec)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8T u4P6wTxU

Whānau voices (1 min 13 sec)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pvXeXG5eU-Y

Whanganui COVID-19 Information Pack

https://manageme.cwp.govt.nz/assets/COVID-19/Vaccine-Rollout/Covid-Vaccine-Booklet-WHANGANUI-ROHE-FINAL.pdf

Dr Nikki Turner's COVID-19 vaccination diary

https://covid.immune.org.nz/news-insights/dr-nikki-turners-covid-19-vaccination-diary-ministry-health

Dr Patrick O'Connor Whanganui DHB

https://manageme.cwp.govt.nz/assets/COVID-19/Vaccine-Rollout/COVID-19-Quick-Guide-Whanganui-rohe-with-Dr-Patrick-OConnor-Medical-Officer-of-Health.pdf

Websites

https://karawhiua.nz/ - a website where whānau can find trusted information here so you can make an informed choice about the COVID-19 vaccine.

https://www.immune.org.nz/ - Immunisation Advisory Centre website

https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines - MOH COVID19 page

https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccines-afety-and-approval/covid-19-assessing-and-approving-vaccines - information about the Medsafe vaccine process

https://www.wdhb.org.nz/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine/ -Whanganui DHB COVID-19 update

https://covid19.who.int/ WHO Coronavirus Dashboard

https://covid19.govt.nz/ NZ Govt Unite against COVID-19 website

https://covid.immune.org.nz/ IMAC COVID-19 EDUCATION website

https://www.chop.edu/centers-programs/vaccine-education-center/making-vaccines/prevent-covid Children's Hospital of Philadelphia Q and As about COVID-19 Vaccines

Simplified Easy Read:

Before getting the COVID-19 vaccine

- Before getting the COVID-19 vaccine (Word, 12.9 MB)
- Before getting the COVID-19 vaccine (PDF, 2.9 MB)
- Published: 27 April 2021

Getting the COVID-19 vaccine

- Getting the COVID-19 vaccine (Word, 10.5 MB)
- Getting the COVID-19 vaccine (PDF, 2.2 MB)
- Published: 27 April 2021

After your COVID-19 vaccine

- After your COVID-19 vaccine (Word, 8.1 MB)
- After your COVID-19 vaccine (PDF, 1.5 MB)
- Published: 27 April 2021

YOUR FAQS ABOUT THE COVID-19 VACCINES

How does the vaccine work?

The vaccine works by teaching the body's immune system to recognise pathogens (disease-causing organisms) without causing illness to the body's immune system. It then remembers this pathogen and when/if the infection occurs at a later date, the body will remember this and fight the infection faster.

How safe is the vaccine?

The vaccine has been approved by Medsafe who are responsible for regulating all medicines and medical devices in NZ. Medsafe will only approve a vaccine for use in NZ once they are confident it complies with international standards and local requirements for quality, safety and effectiveness.

How successful is the vaccine?

Following the clinical trials, early data showed that the vaccine is able to reduce asymptomatic infection and therefore reduce spread. There is confidence that the vaccine has an excellent safety profile and is highly effective against the disease.

Is the vaccine live?

No. There is no virus being injected into your body; you cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine

Does the vaccine cover the new UK and South Africa strains of COVID-19?

Yes. There is evidence that shows the Pfizer vaccine gives some protection against both strains.

I'm a hapū Māmā, is the vaccine safe for my pepi?

Based on how the vaccine works, it's unlikely to pose a specific risk to hapū māmā or their pēpī however trials are still underway.

If you are hapū or breastfeeding and would like the vaccine, please discuss this with your GP.

Who is getting vaccinated first?

The people most at risk of harm if they get the virus and those who live and work in places where they are most likely to pick up COVID-19 such as border workers, frontline health staff. You will be advised when it is your turn to have your vaccination. If you are unsure call your health provider.

Will everyone have to get the vaccine or can you choose whether to have it?

Having a COVID-19 vaccine is voluntary, which means you can choose whether or not to have it. However, getting vaccinated is one of the best ways you can protect yourself, your whānau and the community from getting COVID-19.

Where will vaccinations happen?

There will be a range of places and different options to make getting a vaccine as easy as possible. These will include: Māori and Pasifika providers, GPs, pop-up centres, medical and hauora centres, community clinics, larger-scale events

To learn more about these FAQs or about the covid vaccine, click on the QR code to be redirected to The NZ Immunisation Advisory Centre





MYTHS vs. FACTS ABOUT THE COVID VACCINE

To learn more about the facts in this poster, scan the QR code to be directed to the Ministry of Health website



MYTH

Will it change my DNA?

FACTS

No! The main active

ingredient is mRNA

which doesn't enter a

cell's nucleus and

cannot change the

DNA

FACTS

No! This vaccine will not cause you to develop the disease against which you are vaccinated

FACTS

Yes! There is
evidence that shows
the Pfizer vaccine
gives some
protection against
both strains

MYTH

MYTH

Will it give me

COVID-19?

Will it work against the new UK and South African strains of COVID-19?

COVID 19 Vaccine

FACTS

Yes we do!
We still need to take
all the necessary
precautions to help
end the COVID-19
pandemic

MYTH

Do we have to wear face coverings on public transport or social distancing after the vaccine?



Korowaitia te puna waiora hei oranga motuhake mō te iwi