

27/08/2021

Athina Andonatonou

By email: [fyi-request-16242-d73b3c19@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-16242-d73b3c19@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Ref: H202109628

Tēnā koe Athina

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 30 July 2021 for information related to vaccines in rest homes. Please find a response to each part of your request below.

*"1) How many people have died while in rest home care in New Zealand between 21 February 2021 - 29 July 2021"*

*2) How many of those who have died in rest homes in New Zealand between 21 February 2021 - 29 July 2021 have received the Pfizer vaccination?*

*3) Of those, how many had received one dose*

*4) Of those, how many had received both doses*

*5) Of those that died after receiving the Pfizer vaccination how many of those deaths were reported to CARM"*

While the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) collects mortality information, the place of death collected is a free text field and not categorised. The Ministry does record a facility code for deaths that occur in hospital, but the mortality database does not identify whether a death occurred in a rest home.

As the number of individuals who have passed away in a rest home cannot be determined, the Ministry is unable to provide you with a response for parts 1 – 5 of your request. Therefore, your request is refused in full under section 18(g)(i) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the Ministry and there are no grounds for believing it is held by another agency subject to the Act.

For your information, records of adverse reactions to the vaccine (including reported deaths) can be found on the CARM website here: [www.medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/vaccine-report-overview.asp](http://www.medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/vaccine-report-overview.asp).

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](mailto: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 of Health website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Gibbs', followed by a period.

Joanne Gibbs  
**National Director**  
**COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation Programme**