



17 March 2022

Chuck Schooner

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Kia ora Chuck

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-016914

Your request of 28 January 2022 to the Ministry of Health was partially transferred to ACC on 23 February 2022, to respond to the following questions under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

Total Number of Deaths of persons following vaccine who have either

- *The deceased next of kin/family have received compensation*
- *The deceased next of kin/family have an offer in front of them for compensation*
- *Amount of compensation offered to deceased - ie have these amounts changed as more people have died, or do these offers vary based on age*
- *Pro-forma non disclosure agreement and what terms the next of kin are required to accept to receive payment*

We have interpreted “*the total number of deaths of persons following vaccine*” as referring to deaths related to the COVID-19 vaccination.

We are unable to advise the exact number of, or compensation paid for, fatal claims

Between 18 February 2021 and 12 February 2022, we have received fewer than four fatal claims related to the COVID-19 vaccine, all have been accepted. Due to the small number of fatal claims, we are unable to release the exact number or cost paid out by ACC, to protect our clients’ privacy.

ACC takes privacy seriously

ACC does not routinely disclose claim counts fewer than four, or details pertaining to specific claims. This limits the potential for individuals, or matters related to certain individuals from being identified. Withholding the data in this way is necessary to protect our clients’ privacy. This decision has been made under section 9(2)(a) of the Act. In doing so, we considered the public interest in making the information available and determined that it does not outweigh the need to protect our clients’ privacy.

ACC can provide financial support after a death

In the event of a covered death resulting from the COVID-19 vaccine, dependants of the deceased would be entitled to a range of financial supports, including compensation for lost income if the deceased was working at the time of their injury. ACC also provides survivors’ grants and makes a contribution to funeral costs. More information can be found at <https://www.acc.co.nz/im-injured/financial-support/financial-support-after-death/>.

Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs)

Please refer to our response to you of 12 November 2021 (our ref: GOV-014681), informing you that ACC does not require an NDA when providing compensation for a claim.

We have recently published COVID-19 vaccine injury data on our website

The data includes a breakdown of COVID-19 vaccine injury claims grouped by age and injury type for claims lodged with ACC between 18 February 2021 (when New Zealand began COVID-19 vaccinations) and 5 February 2022. Please note that the data on the ACC website is updated on a monthly basis.

www.acc.co.nz/assets/oia-responses/covid-19-vaccination-claims-refresh-february-2022-IPA5768.pdf.

If you're concerned about this response, please get in touch

You can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you can also contact the Ombudsman via info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz

Ngā mihi



Sara Freitag

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Government Engagement & Support