

1 February 2022

Hemant

By email: [fyi-request-17978-67965c92@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-17978-67965c92@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H202117901

Tēnā koe Hemant

### 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 17 December 2021 for information related to COVID-19 vaccine medical exemptions. You requested specifically:

*"In an 1pm press conference it was mentioned that based on the numbers in Australia, NZ was expecting about 100 medical exemptions for vaccine passes would be issued. How many medical exemptions have been issued that would allow someone to get a vaccine pass?"*

As of 10 January 2022, a total of 490 temporary medical exemptions have been granted. Of these exemptions, approximately 350 have been provided to people who are confirmed as having received the vaccine (a non-placebo) in any COVID-19 vaccine trial in New Zealand (for example, the Valneva COVID-19 vaccine trial).

I trust this information fulfils your request under 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](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



Astrid Koornneef  
**Director**  
**National Immunisation Programme**