

22 June 2022

Athina Andonatonou

By email: [fyi-request-17992-e854d885@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-17992-e854d885@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H202200278

Tēnā koe Athina

### **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 21 December 2021 for:

*“All documentation: minute meetings, scientific articles or research used to inform the decision to inject 5-11 year olds with comirnaty considering they have a 99.995% chance of surviving should they get covid.”*

Six documents have been found within scope of your request. The table in Appendix 1 lists the specific grounds under which I have decided to withhold information. Where information is withheld under section 9 of the Act, please note I have considered the countervailing public interest in release in making this decision and consider that it does not outweigh the need to withhold at this time.

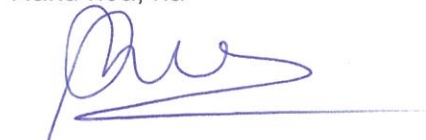
Please note, the COVID-19 Vaccine Technical Advisory Group were able to consider the clinical information in December 2021, rather than 2022. This allowed the Ministry of Health to operationalise ahead of the 2022 school year, launching 17 January 2022.

At the time of drafting the first memo, there was no timeline for the potential supply of the paediatric product. In November, the clinical trials were completed, and information was collated to support the regulatory processes. This created greater certainty as to the real implementation timeframes became more certain.

I trust this information fulfils your request. 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 website at: [www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests](http://www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests).

Nāku noa, nā



Astrid Koornneef  
**Director**

**National Immunisation Programme**

## Appendix 1: Documents for release

#	Date	Title	Decision on release
1	4 November 2021	Summary of paediatric products and projected timeline for receipt	Released with some information withheld under:
2	26 November 2021	COVID-19 Vaccine and Immunisation Programme Proposed implementation approach for vaccine roll out for 5 to 11 year olds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 9(2)(b)(ii) of the Act where its release would likely unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information.</li> <li>• Section 9(2)(g)(i) of the Act to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to Ministers and officers and employees of any public service agency.</li> <li>• Section 9(2)(f)(iv) of the Act to maintain the constitutional conventions that protect the confidentiality of advice tendered by Ministers and officials.</li> </ul>
3	2 December 2021	CVIP 5 to 11 Vaccination Plan: Pfizer paediatric rollout	
4	15 December 2021	Memo: COVID-19 vaccine paediatric use for children 5 to 11 years	
5	13 January 2022	National Immunisation Programme UPDATE: 5-11 year old vaccination rollout	
6	20 December 2021	Child Wellbeing Impact Assessment COVID-19 Immunisation for children 5 to 11 years	