

24 May 2022

Chuck Schooner

By email: fyi-request-19290-f369ad6b@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H202206061

Tēnā koe Chuck

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 9 May 2022 relating to reporting required following the death of a person from an approved medication. You specifically requested:

*“Please provide from start to finish the process documents, investigations required, reporting required following the death of a person from an approved medication.
What is the process undertaken - can you also provide reporting completed for when this has occurred in the past a specific example and what investigations were completed”.*

Your request is refused 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.

The Ministry does not investigate deaths caused by an approved medicine. The coroner investigates when someone dies unexpectedly, violently or in suspicious circumstances or if the general practitioner or doctor is unsure what caused a person’s death. If there is a death that the coroner considers having been caused by a medicine, they provide the Ministry with a summary of their investigations. Some of these with findings of public interest are published on the coronial services website. For further information about the coronial process please see here: <https://coronialservices.justice.govt.nz/coronial-services/>.

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 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.

Nāku noa, nā



Chris James
Group Manager
Medsafe