

5 October 2023



He Kaupare. He Manaaki.
He Whakaora.
prevention. care. recovery.

AS Van Wey

fyi-request-20882-2a9add81@requests.fyi.org.nz

Kia ora

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-027791

Thank you for your email of 15 September 2023, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

I seek information for each calendar year from 1 Jan 2016 to present. This request is subdivided now into two categories.

Category (1) - Treatment Injury Claims related to Health NZ Waikato (formerly Waikato DHB) and their contracted service providers (e.g., Pathlab, Hamilton Radiology, Midland MRI, Midland PET-CT, etc.).

Category (2) - Treatment Injury Claims related to Health NZ (all NZ public hospitals except Waikato) and their contracted service providers (lab services, radiology services, etc.)

For each of the two categories, there are four subcategories.

Subcategory (1): Treatment injury claims related to cancer.

Subcategory (2): Consequential injury claim related to cancer.

Subcategory (3): Treatment injury (TI) claims not related to cancer.

Subcategory (4): Consequential injury (CI) claims not related to cancer.

Request.

For each of the combinations of Category and Subcategory, I request:

- (i) The total number of claims lodged with ACC; and*
- (ii) The total number of claims accepted by ACC; and*
- (iii) The total number of claims declined by ACC.*

Data we cannot provide

ACC does not capture cancer-related treatment injury data separately

As noted in our previous responses, cancer-related treatment injury claims between 1 July 2016 and 30 June 2021 were manually extracted and reviewed by ACC's Clinical Services team in 2021. We have provided this data to you (in previous responses GOV-022857 and GOV-021317), which is the only data that we have readily available.

Identifying more recent cancer-related claims would require substantial collation and research, as we would have to do a manual clinical review of all new treatment injury claims to determine whether they were cancer-related. This also applies to determining if claims are not cancer related. As such, we are refusing to provide the claims data requested for 30 June 2021 onwards. This decision has been made under section 18(f) of the Act.

We are unable to determine if injuries are consequential without a manual review of all claims

There is no indicator on claims that they are 'consequential injuries' for a previously covered injury. As such, they are not distinguishable from other injury claims. Therefore, we are refusing to provide this data as it would require substantial collation and research to extract. This decision has been made under section 18(f) of the Act.

Where we've refused to provide data under section 18(f), we considered extending our timeframe to respond and charging (as allowed under the Act). However, it was determined that the resources required to extract the data would unreasonably interfere with the everyday functions of the team(s) involved.

We are unable to provide a count of claims lodged

Some relevant claim information is not recorded in the system until a cover decision (accepted or declined) is made. Therefore, we are unable to provide data on the claims where the cover decision is still pending.

Treatment Injury data we can provide

The table below provides a count of all treatment injury claims for the Waikato DHB region and rest of New Zealand where a cover decision has been made. The data was extracted on 28 September 2023 and may differ if extracted again at a later date.

Number of treatment injury claims decided between 1 January 2016 and 23 September 2023 by region, cover decision and year

Decision Year	Te Whatu Ora – Waikato Region		Other Te Whatu Ora regions		Total
	Accepted	Declined	Accepted	Declined	
2016	974	473	8,435	4,767	14,649
2017	1,055	586	8,746	5,827	16,214
2018	1,136	597	9,069	5,992	16,794
2019	1,298	497	9,821	4,930	16,546
2020	1,298	524	9,264	4,100	15,186
2021	1,133	498	10,952	4,677	17,260
2022	1,039	500	12,347	5,697	19,583
2023*	912	311	8,740	3,120	13,083
Total	8,845	3,986	77,374	39,110	129,315

**2023 is a partial year, to 23 September 2023*

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public

ACC may release a copy of this response on ACC's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12.

If you have any questions 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



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