
From: Cedric Horner
Sent: Friday, 26 May 2023 6:21 pm
To: s 9(2)(a)
Cc: Health New Zealand Media; Media MOH; s 9(2)(a)
Subject: Re: Advice on puberty blockers

Hi s 9(2)(a)

Response for you. Attributable to a Ministry of Health spokesperson

“Because individual circumstances vary considerably, decisions around the use of puberty blockers are best made by patients and their families in consultation with appropriate health professionals.

Neither Te Whatu Ora nor Ministry of Health have published clinical advice or guidance on puberty blockers. The line, “safe and fully reversible” was removed from the Ministry’s website late last year. Anything published on these agencies’ websites on the topic of puberty blockers was and still is designed to be informative. Clinicians are always best-placed to provide clinical advice to anyone considering gender-affirming health care.”

Cheer
Cedric

From: s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz
Sent: Friday, May 26, 2023 1:45 PM
To: Cedric Horner <Cedric.Horner@health.govt.nz>
Cc: Health New Zealand Media <hnzmedia@health.govt.nz>; Media MOH <media@health.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz
Subject: Re: Advice on puberty blockers

Thank you

s 9(2)(a)
Senior journalist
NZ Herald
s 9(2)(a)



From: s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz
Sent: Friday, 26 May 2023 1:44 pm
To: Cedric Horner <Cedric.Horner@health.govt.nz>
Cc: Health New Zealand Media <hnzmedia@health.govt.nz>; Media MOH <media@health.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz
Subject: Re: Advice on puberty blockers

s 9(2)(a)

Senior journalist
NZ Herald

s 9(2)(a)



From: Cedric Horner <Cedric.Horner@health.govt.nz>

Sent: Friday, 26 May 2023 1:37 pm

To: s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz

Cc: Health New Zealand Media <hnzmedia@health.govt.nz>; Media MOH <media@health.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz

Subject: RE: Advice on puberty blockers

Hi Jane, I'll see if I can get those questions addressed

Cedric Horner (he/him) | Senior Media Advisor

Manatū Hauora | Ministry of Health

s 9(2)(a) | media@health.govt.nz

From: s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz

Sent: Friday, 26 May 2023 1:31 pm

To: Cedric Horner <Cedric.Horner@health.govt.nz>

Cc: Health New Zealand Media <hnzmedia@health.govt.nz>; Media MOH <media@health.govt.nz>; s 9(2)(a) @nzme.co.nz

Subject: Re: Advice on puberty blockers

Kia ora Cedric,

Thanks for that. I'm not sure that helps. What I'm trying to find out is

- what are the specific/current guidelines for puberty blockers? (I can't find that on the Te Whatu Ora website) and
- when did that advice change ie when was it last updated (I assume this year)

Are you able to come back to me as soon as possible please?

Nga mihi

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Senior journalist
NZ Herald

s 9(2)(a)



From: Cedric Horner <Cedric.Horner@health.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, 26 May 2023 1:20 pm
To: s 9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@nzme.co.nz>
Cc: Health New Zealand Media <h.nzmedia@health.govt.nz>; Media MOH <media@health.govt.nz>
Subject: RE: Advice on puberty blockers

Hi s 9(2)(a)

Thanks for your patience, and apologies for the delay. A response for you below.

Attributable to a Ministry of Health spokesperson

“Manatū Hauora – the Ministry of Health, and Te Whatu Ora – Health New Zealand, will always endeavour to ensure advice and guidance published on their respective websites reflects the latest clinical evidence which, from time to time, requires review to accurately reflect the current state.

The recent update to the page on puberty blockers, now hosted on the Te Whatu Ora website, recognised that overseas jurisdictions were reviewing the use of puberty blockers in their health systems particularly in adolescents. The information on the Te Whatu Ora website is up-to-date and reflects the best available evidence.

It is important to note that any medical treatment carries a balance of benefit and risk that needs to be considered in context by the person in partnership with their health professional.

Please also note that The Ministry of Health has not gone through any formal process to review or endorse the PATHA guidelines. Its website has, in the past, provided a link to the PATHA guidelines as a resource for clinicians and individuals seeking gender-affirming healthcare.”

Cedric Horner (he/him) | Senior Media Advisor
Manatū Hauora | Ministry of Health
s 9(2)(a) | media@health.govt.nz

From: s 9(2)(a) <[REDACTED]@nzme.co.nz>
Sent: Tuesday, 23 May 2023 3:08 pm
To: Tarannum Shaikh <Tarannum.Shaikh@health.govt.nz>
Subject: Re: Advice on puberty blockers

Kia ora again Tarannum,
Can you read the section below (part of a lengthy feature published earlier this month/May) and tell me if this was the ministry's position at the time. Or had the wording/guidelines been changed and, if so, where was it on the website?

Thank you

s 9(2)(a)

Last year the Ministry of Health removed the words “safe and reversible” with regard to puberty blockers but still endorses the Professional Association for Transgender Health Aotearoa (Patha) guidelines, which state they are “considered to be fully reversible”. The ministry disputed claims by anti-trans and conservative groups that it had changed its stance, reiterating puberty blockers were safe and reversible.

s 9(2)(a)
Senior journalist
NZ Herald
s 9(2)(a)

