

20 September 2024

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Tēnā koe Catherine

Your request for official information, reference: HNZ00063361

Thank you for your email on 9 September 2024, asking Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora for the following under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

"It states that stock of batch FR4268 were depleted in New Zealand in October 2022. Of the 4800 sent out to provider sites, 280 were administered according to OIA response H00041853. If the remainder of the batch were 'depleted in New Zealand' by October, they did not expire at provider sites as the expiry date for this batch was 30/11/22"

Response

Health NZ can confirm batch FR4268 had a shelf-life extension applied for frozen storage. It was manufactured with 9 months shelf life and had an expiry date of 31 August 2022.

Medsafe approved the amendment of shelf life from 9 months to 12 months on 27 April 2022. Accordingly, on 29 April 2022, batch FR4268 shelf life was extended to 30 November 2022.

However, all the vaccine doses from this batch were distributed and the 2-8 degree expiry date was 31 October 2022, as this was 10 weeks from removal from freezer and this overrides the frozen expiry of 30 November 2022. All unused vaccine doses expired on 31 October 2022 at provider sites.

How to get in touch

If you have any questions, you can contact us at hnzOIA@tewhatauora.govt.nz.

If you are not happy with this response, you have the right to make a complaint to the Ombudsman. Information about how to do this is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or by phoning 0800 802 602.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public, Health NZ may proactively release a copy of this response on our website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release.

Nāku iti noa, nā



Sara Freitag
Manager, Machinery of Government Support
National Public Health Services