

1 February 2016

Dear Mr Jordan

Official Information Act Request

Thank you for your email of 10 December 2015 asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

Information that was referred to when recognizing/rehabilitating/management of concussion/MTBI injuries for years 1991 to 1998.

We have interpreted your request as being for information referred to by ACC staff when recognizing/managing concussion/MTBI during the years 1991 to 1998.

Our Response:

ACC has no record of guidelines exclusively for concussion/MTBI (mild traumatic brain injury) for the period 1991-1998. Consultation with various ACC staff members has indicated that during this time a claim for concussion or other head injury not resulting in serious cognitive impairment or disability was managed as part of ACC's standard process. The claim would have been lodged, registered, evaluated and then referred to the local office for claims management, including the assessment and then payment of entitlements/rehabilitation.

Severe brain injuries were dealt with differently. If the claims lodgement material indicated a serious brain injury, or this was identified once contact with the client had been initiated, staff were advised to refer the case to a Serious Injury Manager for advice on how to proceed.

Severe brain injuries were considered a "complex personal injury" under The Accident Rehabilitation and Compensation Insurance (Complex Personal Injury) Interim Regulations 1994. You can read the regulations by following the link:

http://www.knowledgebasket.co.nz/databases/legislationnz/acts/view/?d1=gpregs/txt/1994/116/116_an.html

ACC is happy to answer your questions

If you have any questions, ACC will be happy to work with you to answer these. You can contact us at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz or in writing to *Government Services, PO Box 242, Wellington 6140*.

You have the right to complain to the Office of the Ombudsman about our response. You can call them on 0800 802 602 between 9am and 5pm on weekdays, or write to *The Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143*.

Yours sincerely



Catherine Soper
Government Services