MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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T Monk
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Ref: H201805416

Dear T Monk

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request of 7 August 2018 under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) for:

> *"Could you please answer the other questions, and give the annual data for a longer period that such data has been recorded (eg 20 years - so trends can be seen)*
> *Also, may I add a question that might be found on death and autopsy certificates*
>
> *Q. How many people have died annually in NZ over the past 30 years (or since death certificate data has been digitally recorded) where Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis has been listed as a cause or contributing factor?"*

The information relating to this request is attached to this letter.

Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, IPF is coded to "J84.1 - Other interstitial pulmonary diseases with fibrosis." This code is also used for Diffuse Pulmonary Fibrosis, Fibrosing Alveolitis (cryptogenic), Hamman-Rich syndrome, and Usual Interstitial Pneumonia. As such please be aware there is no way to separate out only IPF in the data.

Appendix One shows the annual data for Other interstitial pulmonary diseases with fibrosis dating back to 1999/2000. As per your previous OIA request (ref: H201804988), the information provided for your response is based on hospitalisation data. This data is coded according to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems.

Please note that people hospitalised multiple times (for transfers, readmissions, multiple incidents) will be counted each time.

Appendix Two contains the annual mortality data where other interstitial pulmonary diseases with fibrosis was the underlying cause of deathdating back to 2000 . Other interstitial pulmonary diseases with fibrosis could not be recorded as a contributing factor before 2016.

I trust this information fulfils your request.

Yours sincerely

Ann-Marie Cavanagh
Chief Technology and Digital Services Officer
Technology and Digital Services