

20 July 2021

Kiri McKee

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Tena koe Kiri

Official Information Act Request - OIA re BNT162b2 Comirnaty injection

On 30 June 2021, under section 12 of the Official Information Act, you requested the following information from Whanganui District Health Board (WDHB):

- 1: How many people in Whanganui have completed their second dose of the BNT162b2 Comirnaty injection?
- 2: On the 25th of May 2021 Whanganui prison were due for their second dose. How many prisoners have consented and how many have Not given consent to receive the BNT162b2 Comirnaty injection?
- 3: How many rest homes, Mental health facilities, in Whanganui are 100 % injected with BNT162b2 Comirnaty?
- 4: Have you offered an alternative to BNT162b2 to help keep them safe? Vitamin C, D and zinc, healthy nutrition, healthy lifestyle?
- 5: How are the Total 100 % Injected population of Whanganui? Since they are the test subject of an ongoing trail that closes in 2023, what requirements are in place to keep track of their health?
- 6: How many adverse reactions reports have been reported from the 100 % injected?
- 7: Long term effects are still obviously ongoing and would take years to receive updated correct information. Are you still happy to start the BNT162b2 Comirnaty roll out on our Tamariki over 12?
- 8: Who is liable if my 12 year old suffered a major adverse reaction from receiving the BNT162b2 Comirnaty injection?
- 9: Do you agree that Covid 19 in children is a mild flu - like illness? Reports from the CDC says the mortality rate of children ages 0-17 is 20 deaths in 1 Million cases: a survival rate of 99.998 %. When our children are sick they do stay home to stop the spread, and they also recover without the need of any medical treatment.
- 10: What information will be provided to parents of the over 12 year old children for them to make a decision?
- 11: Have you thought of alternatives in our schools to help their immune systems fight the winter bugs? Free Fruit? Hot chicken soup which is full of good protein and vitamins?
- 12: Would you consider alternatives to BNT162b2 Comirnaty for our Tamariki? As above fruit, vegetables in schools?
- 13: Please confirm if any, date of last confirmed case of COVID-19 in Whanganui.

14. Could you please tell me the name of all schools in Whanganui district that will be participating in the COVID rollout?

Whanganui District Health Boards response:

1: How many people in Whanganui have completed their second dose of the BNT162b2 Comirnaty injection?

As at 15 July 2021, 9,733 eligible adults have received a second dose of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, or BNT162b2.

2: On the 25th of May 2021 Whanganui prison were due for their second dose. How many prisoners have consented and how many have Not given consent to receive the BNT162b2 Comirnaty injection?

This information is not available to WDHB, as it is the Department of Corrections information.

While Whanganui DHB provide some clinical and logistical support to Corrections Department in their vaccination programme, we do not store information identifying individuals' personal circumstances.

This question has been transferred to Corrections Department (Part 2, Section 14 (b)(i))

14 Transfer of requests where:

(a) a request in accordance with section 12 is made to a department or interdepartmental venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation; and

(b) the information, or some of the information, to which the request relates -

(i) is not held by the department or venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation but is believed by the person dealing with the request to be held by another department (for itself and for a departmental agency hosted by it or an interdepartmental executive board serviced by it) or interdepartmental venture or Minister of the Crown or organisation, or by a local authority.

3: How many rest homes, Mental health facilities, in Whanganui are 100% injected with BNT162b2 Comirnaty?

This information does not exist and is declined according to section 18 (e).

(that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate, cannot be found).

4: Have you offered an alternative to BNT162b2 to help keep them safe? Vitamin C, D and zinc, healthy nutrition, healthy lifestyle?

We have not offered these alternatives.

5: How are the Total 100 % Injected population of Whanganui? Since they are the test subject of an ongoing trail that closes in 2023, what requirements are in place to keep track of their health?

This information does not exist and is declined according to section 18 (e).

(that the document alleged to contain the information requested does not exist or, despite reasonable efforts to locate it, cannot be found).

6: How many adverse reactions reports have been reported from the 100 % injected?

This information is not held by the Whanganui District Health Board.

7: Long term effects are still obviously ongoing and would take years to receive updated correct information. Are you still happy to start the BNT162b2 Comirnaty roll out on our Tamariki over 12?

The Pfizer vaccine is currently available in New Zealand, only to eligible people 16yrs of age and over.

8: Who is liable if my 12 year old suffered a major adverse reaction from receiving the BNT162b2 Comirnaty injection?

The Pfizer vaccine is currently available in New Zealand, only to eligible people 16yrs of age and over.

9: Do you agree that Covid 19 in children is a mild, flu-like illness?

Reports from the CDC says the mortality rate of children ages 0-17 is 20 deaths in 1 Million cases: a survival rate of 99.998 %. When our children are sick they do stay home to stop the spread, and they also recover without the need of any medical treatment.

Mortality rates in all age groups vary significantly, depending on underlying conditions and other health factors.

10: What information will be provided to parents of the over 12 year old children, for them to make a decision?

The Pfizer vaccine is currently available in New Zealand, only to eligible people 16yrs of age and over.

11: Have you thought of alternatives in our schools to help their immune systems fight the winter bugs? free fruit? Hot chicken soup which is full of good protein and vitamins?

Health promotion activities do exist in schools such as breakfast, lunch and fruit schemes.

12: Would you consider Alternatives to BNT162b2 Comirnaty for our Tamariki? As above fruit, vegetables in schools?

No other vaccine is available at this time in New Zealand.

13: Please confirm if any, Date of last confirmed case of COVID in Whanganui

Last confirmed case in Whanganui 17 April 2020.

14. Could you please tell me the name of all schools in Whanganui district that will be participating in the COVID rollout?

All schools with pupils aged 16 years and over have been invited to participate.

Should you have any further queries about the above information, please contact our OIA co-ordinator Anne Phoenix at anne.phoenix@wdhb.org.nz

Nga mihi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Russell Simpson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Russell Simpson
Chief Executive