

4 November 2021

Clem White

By email: [fyi-request-17290-4755b64f@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-17290-4755b64f@requests.fyi.org.nz)  
Ref: H202114799

Dear Clem

### **Response to your request for official information**

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health (the Ministry) on 21 October 2021. You asked:

*The medsafe adverse events reports include this line:*

*"To date, the observed number of deaths reported after vaccination is actually less than the expected number of natural deaths."*

*I would like to request a copy of the calculations used to support this statement. I realise that natural deaths statistic are publicly available, but I am specifically requesting the actual calculation process because simply having access to various forms of public information is not the same as seeing the methodology used to back up a statement that underpins the entire rationale for public faith in the vaccine program. I would also like to know how this calculation process takes into account the fact that not all deaths that have occurred in vaccinated people will have been represented in the Medsafe reports - i.e. simply dividing the Medsafe number by the people expected to die in that time period would give a misleading result.*

This is refused under section 18(d) of the Act, as the information requested is publicly available in the Adverse Events Following Immunisation (AEFI) safety report on the Medsafe website at: <https://medsafe.govt.nz/COVID-19/safety-report-32.asp#analysis>. This report provides two useful links that explain the concept of the Rapid Cycle Analysis (RCA) to monitor the safety of COVID-19 vaccines, as well as the weekly observed-versus-expected deaths. This refers to not only those reported, but all vaccinated deaths.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by calling 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely



Chris James  
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