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7 June 2024

Mr T. Baker

By email: fyi-request-24089-5a4d9dd4@requests.fyi.org.nz
Ref: H2024041514

Tēnā koe Mr T. Baker

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your follow up request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) to the Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (the Ministry) on 14 May 2024 regarding the report titled *COVID-19 mortality in Aotearoa New Zealand: inequities in risk*. You requested:

“Dear OIA Requests, I am replying to your response of October 5 2023. In it you stated that: “Manatū Hauora has not yet completed the COVID-19 hospitalisation and vaccine effectiveness analysis” but that the work is underway and would be completed “by June 2024”. Please advise the status of the vaccine effectiveness analysis and when it will be published.”

Work is underway to consider hospitalisation patterns and factors associated with the likelihood of hospitalisation. Vaccination is being considered within the analysis, however, a full vaccine effectiveness analysis has not been done internally by Manatū Hauora as external research groups were funded by Manatū Hauora to do this work.

These projects are detailed on our website (see www.health.govt.nz/our-work/health-research-and-innovation-system-leadership/covid-19-and-national-immunisation-programme-research-projects) and include “Examining vaccine effectiveness of two and three doses of Comirnaty mRNA vaccine during the 2022 Omicron wave in Aotearoa” which is currently drafting a journal article, and another project titled “The impact of COVID-19 vaccination on disease burden and transmission and its vaccine effectiveness among participants of SHIVERS/WellKiwis community and household cohorts”.

In addition, there has been a recent a recent journal publication that explored the impact of vaccination in New Zealand, which can be found here: www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0264410X24001282?via%3Dihub and was also funded in part by Manatū Hauora.

I trust this information fulfils your request. If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on: oiagr@health.govt.nz.

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 or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Manatū Hauora website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kristie Carter', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Kristie Carter
Group Manager, Intelligence Surveillance and Knowledge
Public Health Agency | Te Pou Hauora Tūmatanui