



Headquarters
New Zealand Defence Force
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Wellington Mail Centre
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New Zealand

OIA-2024-5075

7 August 2024

Mr Richards

fyi-request-27561-6ad0a79b@requests.fyi.org.nz

Dear Mr Richards

I refer to your email of 10 July 2024 requesting the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA):

Can you please tell me the total number of recruits/reenlisted defence force personnel who have been rejected service due to not receiving the primary doses of COVID vaccine from when it was introduced to the baseline requirements. Also number of NZDF pers who were discharged when the TDFO was enforced. Please provide number for the army regular and territorial respectively.

From March 2020 to the date of your request, 422 applicants are categorised as “further vaccinations required”. This category is for all vaccines and a manual search through the 422 individual records would be required to identify those not receiving the required *doses of COVID vaccine*. This part of your request is therefore refused in accordance with section 18(f) of the OIA.

Can you provide any information to suggest the baseline vaccination requirements are reassessed often as new information comes out to justify their existence in the baseline?

NZDF baseline vaccination requirements are detailed in the NZDF Vaccination Treatment Protocols. This document is reviewed at least annually (or more frequently when required). The current version of NZDF Vaccination Treatment Protocols (3.02) was issued 10 April 2024.

Have levels of pericarditis and myocarditis increased since the covid vaccine rollout for NZDF pers?

The NZDF is not tracking a significant increase in the rate of pericarditis or myocarditis since the rollout of the COVID vaccine.

You have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to ask an Ombudsman to review this response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that responses to official information requests are proactively released where possible. This response to your request will be published shortly on the NZDF website.

Yours sincerely

AJ WOODS

Air Commodore
Chief of Staff HQNZDF