

To: oiagr@health.govt.nz

This is a formal request made under the New Zealand Official Information Act (OIA).

I am submitting my request for the isolation of the viruses on the vaccination schedule due to a potential misunderstanding due to a poor choice of a word that I used. The difference between my previous request and new request is as follows:

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Original Request

"All records in the possession, custody or control of the Ministry of Health describing the isolation of *all* Viruses on the [New Zealand Immunisation Schedule](#), directly from a sample taken from a human patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; lung cells from a lung cancer patient)."

To

All records in the possession, custody or control of the Ministry of Health describing the isolation of *any* Viruses on the [New Zealand Immunisation Schedule](#), directly from a sample taken from a human patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; lung cells from a lung cancer patient).

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Description of Requested Records:

All records in the possession, custody or control of the Ministry of Health describing the isolation of *any* Viruses on the [New Zealand Immunisation Schedule](#), directly from a sample taken from a human patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; lung cells from a lung cancer patient).

Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else. I am not requesting records where "isolation of virus" refers instead to:

- the culturing of something, or
- the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), or
- the sequencing of something.

Please also note that my request is not limited to records that were authored by the The Ministry of Health or that pertain to work done by the Ministry of Health. My request includes any sort of record, for example (but not limited to) any published peer-reviewed study that the Ministry of Health has downloaded or printed.

If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that I may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it).

Format: PDF documents or links to PDFs sent to me via email; I do not wish for anything to be shipped to me.

The list of viruses that are currently on the Ministry Of Health's Vaccination Schedule:

- Influenza
- Tetanus
- Diptheria
- Pertussis
- Rotavirus
- Hepatitis B
- Polio
- Haemophilus Influenzae type b
- Pneumococcal
- Measles
- Mumps
- Rubella
- Varicella
- Human Papillomavirus
- Zoster

Please include any virus that I may have missed in the list above that is on the Ministry of Health's Vaccination Schedule.

25 November 2020

[REDACTED]
By email: [REDACTED]
Ref: H202008329

Dear [REDACTED]

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 19 November 2020 for:

"All records in the possession, custody or control of the Ministry of Health describing the isolation of any Viruses on the New Zealand Immunisation Schedule, directly from a sample taken from a human patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; lung cells from a lung cancer patient)."

The Ministry of Health has not identified any information in scope of your request, therefore I am refusing your request under section 18(e) of the Act. However, the Institute of Environmental Science and Research may hold some useful information. They can be contacted at: www.esr.cri.nz/home/contact-us/.

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.

Yours sincerely



Nick Allan
Manager OIA Services
Office of the Director-General