

Northern Region Health
Coordination Centre
Level 9
Bledisloe House
24 Wellesley Street West,
Auckland CBD, Auckland 1010

30 November 2021

[REDACTED]

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Re: Official Information Act request – Delta Outbreak Information

I refer to your official information request dated 09 November 2021 for the following information. We have clarified this so it applies to Auckland DHB data and ICU patients (Q4) only. We also note your question 3 was previously transferred to the Ministry of Health as the agency responsible for the requested information, so it's not included below.

1) Data re daily new cases of fully vaccinated people - time elapsed since 2nd vaccine shot at time of becoming infected, infectious, or diagnosed as a Covid-19 case. Ideally, I would like this broken down into weekly summaries, but I am happy to receive the information in whatever way it is collected and stored. I do not just want a total aggregate amount for the entire period August 2021 to date, I want to see how the rates have changed over time and whether there is a correlation between the time that someone was vaxxed and the time they were infected.

2) Prior engagement by Covid cases with Covid mitigation measures prior to becoming aware they were a Covid case (e.g. social distancing, obeying lockdown restrictions, mask use, Covid QR App sign ins, etc)

4) Data summarising the key information for persons with Covid admitted to ICU in NZ for all cases:-

(a) vaccination status

(b) time since fully vaccinated before testing positive for COVID-19

(c) time since fully vaccinated before being admitted to ICU

(d) prior history of engagement with Covid mitigation measures prior to testing positive for Covid 19.

(e) outcome for each case

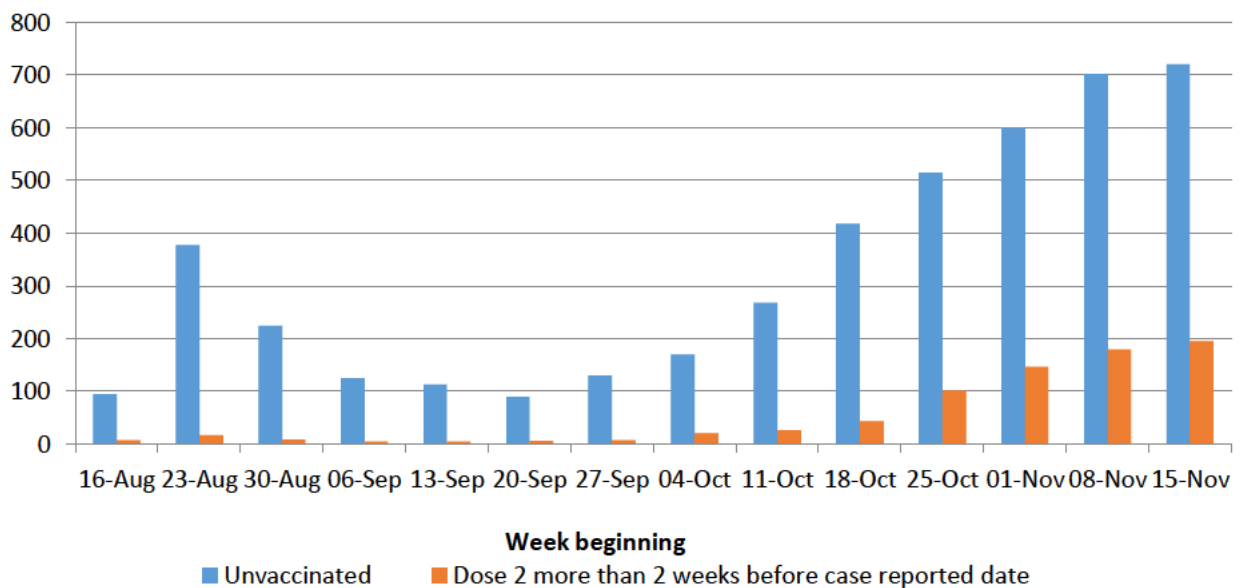
(f) for survivors - prognosis for future effects, e.g. lingering symptoms ('long covid') or permanent disability or full recovery with no mental, physical or other impairment.

I am responding on behalf of the Northern Region Health Coordination Centre (NRHCC), the COVID-19 response and vaccination team set up by the Northland, Waitematā, Auckland, and Counties Manukau DHBs. All included data below relates to the period 17 August to 22 November 2021.

1) Data re daily new cases of fully vaccinated people - time elapsed since 2nd vaccine shot at time of becoming infected, infectious, or diagnosed as a Covid-19 case. Ideally, I would like this broken down into weekly summaries, but I am happy to receive the information in whatever way it is collected and stored. I do not just want a total aggregate amount for the entire period August 2021 to date, I want to see how the rates have changed over time and whether there is a correlation between the time that someone was vaxxed and the time they were infected.

The data below shows the total number of new cases by week who were fully vaccinated more than 2 weeks before the *case reported date* along with those who were unvaccinated. We are unable to provide the time-elapsed since 2nd vaccination for each of the cases without individual case review, which would compromise that individual's health information privacy and involve a substantial amount of work to research and collate this information.

I am therefore refusing this aspect of your request under section 18(f) of the OIA. To collate such information would unreasonably interfere with our operations at a time when the staff who would be able to inform a response, are committed to the current COVID-19 outbreak response.



| Week beginning: | 16-Aug | 23-Aug | 30-Aug | 06-Sep | 13-Sep | 20-Sep | 27-Sep | 04-Oct | 11-Oct | 18-Oct | 25-Oct | 01-Nov | 08-Nov | 15-Nov |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total cases | 117 | 453 | 266 | 155 | 129 | 112 | 175 | 252 | 393 | 642 | 805 | 1016 | 1,165 | 1,150 |
| Number of new cases by week who were fully vaccinated more than 2 weeks before case reported date | 7 | 17 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 20 | 26 | 43 | 101 | 146 | 179 | 195 |
| % of cases who were fully vaccinated | 6 | 3.8 | 3 | 2.6 | 3.1 | 4.5 | 2.3 | 7.9 | 6.6 | 6.7 | 12.5 | 14.4 | 15.4 | 17 |

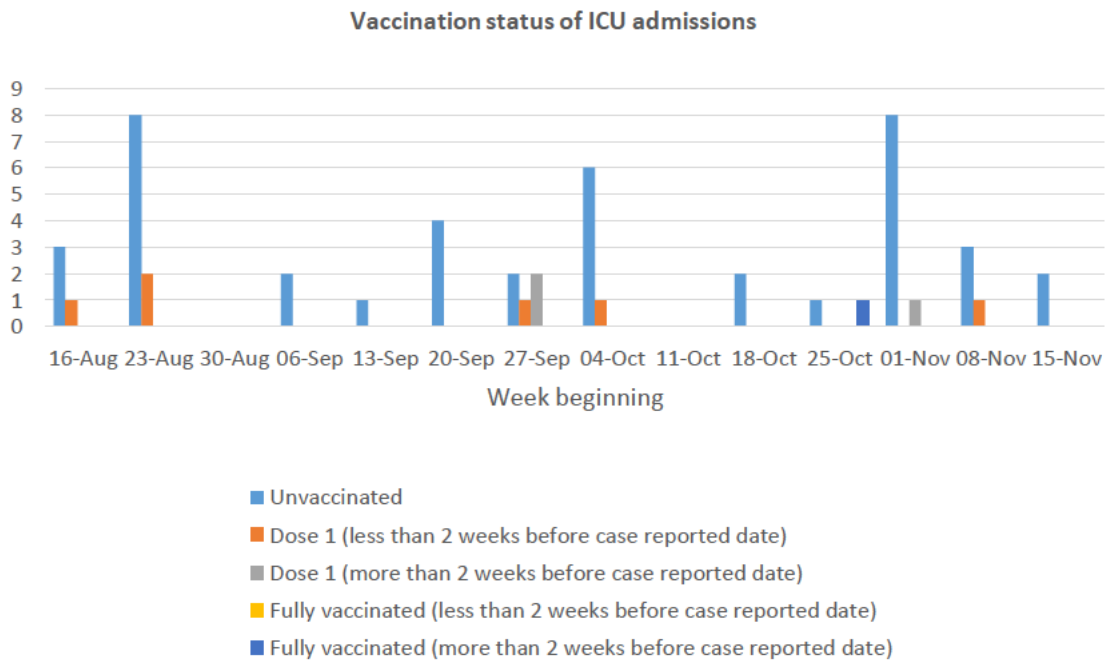
2) Prior engagement by Covid cases with Covid mitigation measures prior to becoming aware they were a Covid case (e.g. social distancing, obeying lockdown restrictions, mask use, Covid QR App sign ins, etc)

We are unable to provide a response to this question as no such information is collected. I am therefore refusing this request under section 18(g) of the OIA, because the NRHCC does not hold any official information.

4) Data summarising the key information for persons with Covid admitted to ICU in NZ for all cases:-

(a) vaccination status *at admission*

There have been a total of 56 ICU admissions over the outbreak period – or 52 individuals. The graph below shows the vaccination status for ICU admitted patients by week at the time of admission to hospital.



(b) time since fully vaccinated before testing positive for Covid-19

Only one patient admitted to ICU was fully vaccinated, they received their second dose 59 days before their positive COVID-19 result. One other ICU admitted patient had also had their second vaccination, but this was only two days before their hospital admission and after their positive COVID-19 test result.

(c) time since fully vaccinated before being admitted to ICU

The fully vaccinated ICU case received their second dose 62 days before their admission to ICU.

(d) prior history of engagement with Covid mitigation measures prior to testing positive for Covid 19.

We are unable to provide a response to this question as no such information is collected. I am therefore refusing this request under section 18(g) of the OIA, because the NRHCC does not hold any official information.

(e) outcome for each case

Of the above cases:

- 3 patients died
- 14 remain in hospital
- The remainder were discharged

(f) for survivors - prognosis for future effects, e.g. lingering symptoms ('long covid') or permanent disability or full recovery with no mental, physical or other impairment.

We would require a staff member to look into each individual's clinical record which would compromise that individual's health information privacy and involve a substantial amount of work to research and collate this information.

I am therefore refusing this request under section 18(f) of the OIA. To collate such information would unreasonably interfere with our operations at a time when the staff who would be able to inform a response, are committed to the current COVID-19 outbreak response.

You are entitled to seek a review of the response by the Ombudsman under section 28(3) of the Official Information Act. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, or an edited version of this response, may be published on the Auckland DHB website.

Yours sincerely



Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive
Counties Manukau Health