



20 May 2024

Kia ora

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-032070**

Thank you for your email of 25 April 2024, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*I understand from GOV-029326 that “28 claims have received payment for cannabis related products in 2023.”*

*Obviously without revealing patient identities, can you advise what products were approved and for what medical conditions?*

**Our response**

Please find updated information on the number claims that received ACC-funded cannabis products in 2023, by product, in the table below.

**Number of claims that received payment(s) for cannabis products in 2023, by product**

Product	Claims
Helius/ Subdrop	13
Medleaf	2
Sativex	6
Tilray	15
Unspecified	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>

Data were extracted on 2 May 2024 and may differ if rerun later.

**What medical conditions were approved**

Information about the specific conditions that the cannabis products were funded for would be held within documentation in individual claim files. We could only determine this information by manually review the individual claim files, which would require substantial collation and research. For this reason, we are refusing this part of your request under section 18(f) of the Act.

However, we can advise that our Clinical Quality and Governance team has recently conducted an audit of claims that have requested a cannabis product. They found that the symptoms a cannabis product was generally approved for was related to chronic pain. Typically, this was targeting specific pain classifications as per the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP). Of the claims that were audited:

- 75% of requests were predominantly for chronic non cancer pain management (including neuropathic and/or nociplastic pain types),
- 11% of requests were for seizure management use
- 7% of requests were for sleep management, nausea, anxiety, functional mobility and vertigo.

**As this information may be of interest to other members of the Public**

ACC may decide to release a copy of this response on ACC's website. All requester data, including your name and contact details, will be removed prior to release. The released response will be made available [www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12](http://www.acc.co.nz/resources/#/category/12).

**If you have any questions about this response, please get in touch**

You can email me at [GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz](mailto:GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz).

If you are not happy with this response, you can also contact the Ombudsman via [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz) or by phoning 0800 802 602. Information about how to make a complaint is available at [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Ngā mihi



Christopher Johnston  
**Manager Official Information Act Services**  
Government Engagement