



23 April 2024

Kia ora [REDACTED]

**Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-031180**

Thank you for your email of 14 March 2024, asking for the following information under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

*Can you please update the information contained within this OIA Response from ACC - I'd like the updated amounts paid out for vaccine injury month on month to date, from September 2022 where the enclosed table leaves off from. Could you also please include the total amount paid out for the year 2019 as a whole, and 2018 too please.*

**A treatment injury is a personal injury caused as a result of seeking or receiving medical treatment from, or at the direction of, a registered health professional**

In order to fulfil criteria for cover, the person must have suffered a personal injury and there must be a clear causal link between the treatment and the injury, and the injury must not be a necessary or ordinary consequence of the treatment.

**Notes about the data provided**

Costs are GST exclusive and do not include Public Health Acute Services (PHAS) payments. Treatment for covered claims in public hospitals is provided by an annual service agreement between ACC and the Ministry of Health and is funded by bulk payments from ACC to the Crown. Payment data provided in this response is limited to services purchased directly by ACC.

There are three broad categories of costs (entitlements) a claim could receive: compensation, treatment, and rehabilitation support.

**The vaccine related treatment injury data below was extracted on 25 March 2024.**

It provides the total cost of claims for all vaccine related injury claims (i.e. is the data is not limited to only COVID-19 vaccine injuries) between 1 July 2005 and 23 March 2024, where the treatment event was vaccination or injection/medications, adverse reaction/medication error and where the medication type was recorded as vaccine.

Please note that in our previous response (*our ref:GOV-021570*) we provided payments only for injuries between Feb 2021 and Sep 2022. This response includes all vaccination related Treatment Injury claims that received a payment within the relevant period regardless of the injury or lodgement date.

**Vaccine related injuries before and after COVID-19**

There has been an increase in the claim costs associated with vaccinations since the COVID-19 vaccine was made available in New Zealand in 2021. The increase in costs since this time are likely due to a number of factors, including:

- A significant increase in the number of vaccinations given to New Zealanders, including of the working age group.
- Clients, for all claim-types, taking longer to return to work during and after lockdowns.

- Greater public awareness of vaccine-related medical conditions and support for vaccine-related treatment injuries under the ACC Scheme.
- ACC paying for more clinical assessments on COVID-19 vaccine claims to determine cover.

**Total cost of all accepted vaccine related injury claims by month between 1 September 2022 and 23 March 2024**

Payment Month	Payments
September 2022	\$349,967
October 2022	\$507,183
November 2022	\$423,963
December 2022	\$492,035
January 2023	\$388,096
February 2023	\$326,555
March 2023	\$597,573
April 2023	\$399,108
May 2023	\$376,763
June 2023	\$290,957
July 2023	\$322,082
August 2023	\$654,093
September 2023	\$280,085
October 2023	\$337,948
November 2023	\$262,633
December 2023	\$315,565
January 2024	\$286,188
February 2024	\$773,005
March 2024 <sup>1</sup>	\$181,269

<sup>1</sup>Partial month to 23 March 2024

**Total payments for 2018 and 2019**

The total payments for vaccination-related treatment injury claims for 2018 was \$146,449; and for 2019 it was \$145,875.

**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).

Ngā mihi



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 Government Engagement