



22 September 2023

Kia ora [REDACTED]

Your Official Information Act request, reference: GOV-027680

Thank you for your email of 11 September 2023, asking for the following information about the response we provided on 11 September 2023 (GOV-027133 refers) under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act):

- *Can you please confirm if Psychological Services are part of the ACC diagnostic criteria for making a cover decision for PTSD, you only mention Psychiatric?*
- *Can you please provide me with more details on "Psychiatric Services" that you mention?*

Further information about the Psychiatric Services is available on our website

This Service Schedule for Psychiatric Services is publicly available, here:

www.acc.co.nz/assets/contracts/clps-schedule.pdf.

Criteria for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) as a diagnosis does exist

The criteria include DSM-5 and ICD-11. Providers (psychologists and psychiatrists) rely on these diagnostic criteria when diagnosing PTSD. ACC considers reports from psychiatrists (under the Psychiatric Services contract) and psychologists (under Psychological Services contract:

www.acc.co.nz/assets/contracts/psychological-service-schedule.pdf).

However, ACC does not have its own 'diagnostic criteria'. Instead, we have legislation that defines 'mental injury' as "clinically significant behavioural, cognitive, or psychological dysfunction". PTSD meets the legislative threshold for a mental injury and is a commonly covered by ACC.

As this information may be of interest to other members of the public

ACC has decided to proactively 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.

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

You can email me at GovernmentServices@acc.co.nz.

Ngā mihi

Sara Freitag

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Government Engagement