

31st May 2021

[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

Official Information Act Request for – HPV Gardasil Vaccine

I write in response to your Official Information Act request received by us on 30th April 2021 by way of transfer from the Ministry of Health (ref: H202104359), you requested the following information:

“I'm wanting to lodge an official information request in regards to the HPV Gardasil vaccine. I understand that the Ministry of Health works with schools who are willing to provide a school-based immunisation programme. I'd like to know how many schools, intermediate and secondary schools, are currently refusing to work with the Ministry of Health on this school-based immunisation programme for the HPV Gardasil vaccine, and could I get a list of the names of these schools who are currently not working alongside the Ministry of Health with this programme.”

Counties Manukau Health Response:

For context Counties Manukau Health (CM Health) employs over 8,500 staff and provides health and support services to people living in the Counties Manukau region (approx. 601,490 people).

I'd like to know how many schools, intermediate and secondary schools, are currently refusing to work with the Ministry of Health on this school-based immunisation programme for the HPV Gardasil vaccine, and could I get a list of the names of these schools who are currently not working alongside the Ministry of Health with this programme.

In the Counties Manukau district there are six schools, Destiny, Pukekohe Christian, Manukau Christian, Oneschool Global NZ, Zayed and Elim Christian that choose not to offer the Gardasil HPV vaccine. Please note: Pukekohe Christian School have advised that further discussion around offering the HPV Gardasil vaccine is scheduled for their next Board meeting. Until this discussion is held, including them could potentially cause confusion for parents in the school community if the school decision changes.

I trust this information answers your request. 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 may be published on the Counties Manukau Health website. If you consider there are good reasons why this response should not be made publicly available, we will be happy to consider this.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a thin black rectangular border. The signature is stylized and appears to be 'F. Margie Apa'.

Fepulea'i Margie Apa
Chief Executive Officer
Counties Manukau Health