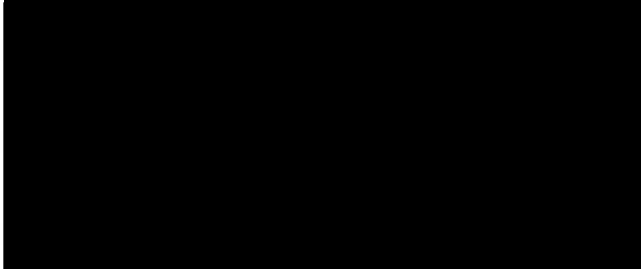


6 April 2021



Re: Official Information Act request → Covid positive cases from Australia

I refer to your Official Information Act request dated 11 March 2021 to the Ministry of Health and transferred by the MoH to Auckland DHB on 22 March 2021. You requested the following information:

Regarding the positive cases within the cohort that arrived from Australia, I note that it appears there have been two cases since April 2020. One case was from August 2020 and one case from November 2020.

Can you please provide details on the contact tracing related to these two cases? How were each of these individuals infected? Through the use of Genomic sequencing, is it believed these cases were acquired within MIQ facilities, on board aircraft or within the community in Australia?"

On March 22, the Ministry of Health (MoH) responded to the last part of your request regarding genomic data. On the same date, the MoH partially transferred the first two parts of your request to Auckland DHB. Accordingly, this response will cover the following parts of your request:

Regarding the positive cases within the cohort that arrived from Australia, I note that it appears there have been two cases since April 2020. One case was from August 2020 and one case from November 2020.

Can you please provide details on the contact tracing related to these two cases? How were each of these individuals infected?

I am responding from Auckland District Health Board (ADHB) as the DHB responsible for Auckland Regional Public Health Service (ARPHS).

ARPHS provides public health services to all three metro Auckland district health boards – Waitematā District Health Board, Counties Manukau Health and Auckland District Health Board, and the populations they serve. ARPHS' core role is to protect and promote public health.

Below are the responses to your two questions:

Can you please provide details on the contact tracing related to these two cases?

How were each of these individuals infected?

1. The case interview from the COVID-19 imported case from Australia confirmed in August 2020 identified the likely source was exposure to two household contacts in Australia that tested positive for COVID-19. There were no contacts identified therefore no contact tracing was required.
2. The case interview from COVID-19 imported case from Australia confirmed in November 2020 did not identify the source of the infection. CCTV footage was reviewed and this did not identify any process concerns. There were no contacts identified therefore no contact tracing was required.

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 faithfully



Ailsa Claire, OBE
Chief Executive of Te Toka Tumai (Auckland District Health Board)