

4 April 2022

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your OIA request, transferred to us by the Ministry of Health, for information on:

1. **When did MIS-C get added to the Starship website? It wasn't on the website when I submitted the initial request.**
2. **Under whose instruction did it happen? Please provide all information, briefings, data, names involved in and the evidence that shows MIS-C is caused by Covid-19?**
3. **I specifically want to know who was involved in adding this to the website when it previously wasn't there when I made the initial request.**
4. **What papers do you have to support this?**

Response

1. **When did MIS-C get added to the Starship website? It wasn't on the website when I submitted the initial request.**

7 September 2021.

2. **Under whose instruction did it happen? Please provide all information, briefings, data, names involved in and the evidence that shows MIS-C is caused by Covid-19?**

2.1 Under whose instruction did it happen?

Drs Genevieve Ostring, Amanda Taylor, Gabrielle Nuthall and Greg Williams gave this instruction collectively.

2.2 Please provide all information, briefings, data, names involved in and the evidence that shows MIS-C is caused by Covid-19?

There were no briefings involved in this and we are refusing this part of your request because the information requested does not exist. We do so citing s. 18 (e) Official Information Act.

The names involved are those listed above, as the approving clinicians.

The data used to assemble this clinical evidence is data gathered by the clinicians who authored the papers listed below at 4. As such it is information that Auckland DHB does not hold.

We are refusing this part of your request because Auckland DHB does not hold this information and we have no grounds for believing it is held by any other department or agency of government. We do so citing s. 18 (g) of the Official Information Act.

For clarity, the guideline on the Starship Child Health website and thus Auckland DHB do not make comment on causation but recognise an association between MIS-C and COVID-19.

The guideline states:

*“COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) is associated with a rare, delayed multi-system hyper-inflammatory response known as either **PIMS-TS** (Paediatric inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome temporally associated with SARS-CoV-2) or **MIS-C** (Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children).”*

3. I specifically want to know who was involved in adding this to the website when it previously wasn't there when I made the initial request.

Drs Genevieve Ostring, Amanda Taylor, Gabrielle Nuthall and Greg Williams.

4. What papers do you have to support this?

- 4.1 Whittaker E, Bamford A, Kenny J, Kafrou M, Jones CE, Shah P, et al. Clinical Characteristics of 58 Children With a Pediatric Inflammatory Multisystem Syndrome Temporally Associated With SARS-CoV-2. JAMA. 2020. Epub 2020/06/09. doi: 10.1001/jama.2020.10369. PubMed PMID: 32511692; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7281356
- 4.2 Henderson L, Canna S, Friedman K, Gorelik M, Lapidus S, Bassiri H, et al. American College of Rheumatology Clinical Guidance for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children Associated With SARS-CoV-2 and Hyperinflammation in Pediatric COVID-19: Version 2. Arthritis & Rheum. 2020 ;73(4)
- 4.3 Feldstein LR, Rose EB, Horwitz SM, Collins JP, Newhams MM, Son MBF, et al. Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in U.S. Children and Adolescents. N Engl J Med. 2020;383(4):334-46. Epub 2020/07/01. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2021680. PubMed PMID: 32598831; PubMed Central PMCID: PMC7346765.]
- 4.4 McArdle A, Vito O, Patel H, Seaby E, Shah P, Wilson C et al. Treatment of Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children. N Engl J Med. 2021: 385 (1): 11-22
- 4.5 Henderson L, Canna S, Friedman K, Gorelik M, Lapidus S, Bassiri H, et al. American College of Rheumatology Clinical Guidance for Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children Associated With SARS-CoV-2 and Hyperinflammation in Pediatric COVID-19: Version 3. Arthritis & Rheum. 2021

You are entitled to seek a review of Auckland DHB's 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.govt.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 sincerely,



Ailsa Claire OBE
Chief Executive