



By email

request-788980-5ff278c6@whatdotheyknow.com

Our ref: 04/09/21/kl/1238

6 September 2021

Dear Matthew Ogden,

Re: Freedom of Information request - Deaths After Vaccine given

Thank you for your request received on 6 September 2021 addressed to Public Health England (PHE). In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), I can confirm that PHE partially holds the information you have specified.

Request

I wish to know the number of people that have died within a twenty eight day period of receiving any of the covid vaccinations. Dating from the first vaccines for covid administered till the most recent time statistics can be gathered.

Response

PHE can confirm that it partly holds the information you have specified. PHE holds data on deaths within 28 days of a positive COVID-19 test broken down by vaccination status (1 dose, 2 doses, unvaccinated or unknown). This information is exempt under Section 22(1)(a) of the Act as it is due to be published shortly.

Under section 22(1)(a) of the Act, public authorities are not obliged to provide information that is intended for future publication. In line with the terms of this exemption in the Act, PHE has considered the following in favour of disclosure of the requested information:

- maintaining access to data in a co-ordinated manner to all people at the same time, as well as
- ensuring the quality and integrity of data.

In this case, we have concluded that the public interest favours withholding the information. Our view that Section 22(1)(a) applies to your request is based on the judgement that the public interest will be better served by general publication, when complete. Disclosure now, to a single individual, of incomplete data and therefore potentially misleading information would not be in the public interest.

The variants of concern technical briefing, published by PHE, provides the latest data regarding hospitalisations and deaths by variant, as well as data concerning those hospitalised with the Delta variant of COVID-19 who are vaccinated with one and both doses and those unvaccinated. Data is available from 1 February 2021 at the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/investigation-of-novel-sars-cov-2-variant-variant-of-concern-20201201>

PHE does not monitor non-COVID-19 deaths within 28 days of having a vaccine. You may wish to contact the Office for National Statistics (ONS), which is responsible for the registration of death certificates within England and Wales or the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA), which is responsible for ensuring the safety, quality and effectiveness of medicines, medical devices and blood components for the transfusion in the United Kingdom.

The ONS also publish mortality statistics, including those relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. You may be interested in the ONS Monthly Mortality analysis, specifically 'Table 12: Number of deaths with ICD-10 codes related to COVID-19 mentioned on the death certificate, by ICD-10 code, deaths registered in March 2020 to May 2021, England and Wales'. This table includes 'COVID-19 vaccines causing adverse effects in therapeutic use, unspecified'. You can access this data at: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/birthsdeathsandmarriages/deaths/datasets/monthlymortalityanalysisenglandandwales>

The MHRA operate the Yellow Card scheme, which is the UK system for collecting and monitoring information on suspected safety concerns or incidents involving medicines and medical devices. The MHRA publish a weekly report on suspected adverse reactions to the approved COVID-19 vaccines. The report can be accessed here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-vaccine-adverse-reactions>

You can contact the ONS FOI team at: foi.xxxx@xxx.xxx.xx

You can contact the MHRA team at: inxx@xxxx.xxx.xx

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to me in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing foi@phe.gov.uk.

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The ICO can be contacted by calling the ICO's helpline on 0303 123 1113, visiting the ICO's website at www.ico.org.uk or writing to the ICO at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely
FOI Team