

22/02/2013

DE00000755282

Dear Mr Wells,

Thank you for your request of 29 January 2013 under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). Your exact request was:

"I recently received your promotional material regarding the immunisation of children (up to 18 years of age).

If one of my offspring were to receive the full immunisation schedule promoted in your leaflet, and assuming the offspring in question is male, please confirm the following (for the avoidance of doubt, the same immunisation schedule can be found at <http://www.nhs.uk/Planners/vaccinations/Pages/Vaccinationchecklist.aspx>):

- 1) What is the total amount of aluminium that would enter into their body from these injections?*
- 2) What amount of the aluminium provided in response to question 1 above would enter into their bloodstream?*
- 3) What amount of the aluminium provided in response to question 2 above would cross the blood-brain barrier and enter into their brain?*
- 4) What are the long term effects of aluminium entering the body as a result of these immunisations?*
- 5) What are the long term effects of aluminium entering the brain as a result of these immunisations?*
- 6) What is the elimination rate of aluminium from a child's body?*
- 7) What is the elimination rate of aluminium from a child's brain?*
- 8) What is the recommended safe level of aluminium to enter a child's body via injection and how was this determined?*
- 9) What is the recommended safe level of aluminium to enter a child's brain and how was this determined?*
- 10) Other than any studies mentioned in response to the above 9 questions, what other studies have been carried out to determine the safety of children receiving aluminium-containing vaccines?*

For each response please quote the source of your information. If no data from studies published in recognised peer-reviewed journals exists please state this for any applicable response.

If answering all 10 questions would result in your response falling outside of the scope of a request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, then please treat each question as if it were an individual request."

I can confirm that the Department of Health holds some information relevant to your request.

However, as the information held by the Department is in the public domain, we will under Section 21 of the FOI Act (information accessible to the applicant by other means) refer you to the published source.

The response to two parliamentary questions (142135 and 142145), published in *Hansard* on 11 February 2013, is available at:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201213/cmhansrd/cm130211/text/130211w0003.htm#13021150001660>

An extract from a report on Aluminium Adjuvants, by the Global Advisory Committee on Vaccine Safety, published in the World Health Organization's *Weekly Epidemiological Record* on 27 July 2012, is available at:

http://www.who.int/vaccine_safety/committee/topics/adjuvants/Jun_2012/en/index.html

Please note that the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) has responsibility in the UK for vaccine safety and may hold information relevant to your request.

The contact details for the MHRA are:

151 Buckingham Palace Road
Victoria
London SW1W 9SZ

Website: <http://www.mhra.gov.uk/index.htm#page=DynamicListMedicines>

Email: info@mhra.gsi.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 3080 6000

Alternatively, you can submit a request using the MHRA's Freedom of Information request form, which is available at:

<http://www.mhra.gov.uk/Aboutus/Freedomofinformationanddataprotection/Freedomofinformation/FOIrequestform/index.htm>

If you have any queries about this email, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Head of the Freedom of Information Team
Department of Health
Room 317
Richmond House
79 Whitehall,
London
SW1A 2NS

Email: freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Department. The ICO can be contacted at:

The Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Danny Lamond

Freedom of Information Officer
Department of Health

freedomofinformation@dh.gsi.gov.uk