MEDICINAL CANNABIS AGENCY

MANATŪ HAUORA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

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20 May 2024

s 9(2)(a)

[redacted]
Ref: H2024039976

Tēnā koe s 9(2)(a)

Response to your request for official information

Thank you for your request under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act) on 21 April 2024 for information regarding the Medicinal Cannabis Scheme. Please find a response to each part of your request below.

> *I am looking for all information regarding medicinal cannabis products recalls and issues since the inception of the Medicinal Cannabis Scheme (April 1 2020):*
> *Please provide:*
> *Total amount of medical cannabis products recalled including product details, why they were recalled and how many patients were affected.*

Since 1 April 2020, there have been three medicinal cannabis recall actions. A summary of all recall actions in New Zealand, including medicinal cannabis recalls, can be found via a publicly accessible and searchable database, known as the Medsafe Online Recalls Database (MORD). This can be found here: www.medsafe.govt.nz/hot/recalls/RecallSearch.asp#results.

Details about each of the three recalls are provided below:

- On May 2021, one batch of Tilray FS THC25 was recalled due to the printed shelf life not meeting the verified specifications for the product: www.medsafe.govt.nz/hot/recalls/RecallDetail.asp?ID=27739.
- On January 2024, one batch of Medleaf High THC GG#4 was recalled to consumer level due to complaints relating to colour and odour. There was no quality issue identified with this batch: www.medsafe.govt.nz/hot/recalls/RecallDetail.asp?ID=32314.
- On April 2024, one batch of Kikuya Arroyo was recalled due to presence of mould. This recall is still in progress: www.medsafe.govt.nz/hot/recalls/RecallDetail.asp?ID=32864.

Please note that there was one medicinal cannabis recall in January 2020, prior to the implementation of the Medicinal Cannabis Scheme on 1 April 2020. Details of the recall, including product name, batch number and reasons for recalling the product can be found here: www.medsafe.govt.nz/hot/recalls/RecallDetail.asp?ID=25595.

Any information about how effective the recall was, including how many patients returned their product

We do hold part of the information for this request, however, your request is refused under section 9 (2)(b)(ii) of the Act, as releasing this information would likely unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the person who is the subject of the information.

Any information on patients having side effects or needing treatment from recalled products, including whether they consumed the product before or after the recall

In accordance with section 18(d) of the Act, information regarding the number of adverse events that relate to medicines and vaccines is publicly available here: www.medsafe.govt.nz/Projects/B1/ADRDisclaimer.asp.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request with us, including this decision, please feel free to contact the OIA Services Team on oiagr@health.govt.nz.

Under section 28(3) of the Act, you have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review any decisions made under this request. The Ombudsman may be contacted by email at: info@ombudsman.parliament.nz or by calling 0800 802 602.

Please note that this response, with your personal details removed, may be published on the Ministry website at: www.health.govt.nz/about-ministry/information-releases/responses-official-information-act-requests.

Nāku noa, nā

Chris James
Licensing Authority
Medicinal Cannabis Agency