

Dear [REDACTED]

DECISION ON YOUR ACCESS APPLICATION

I refer to your application under section 30 of the *Freedom of Information Act 2016* (FOI Act), received by ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD) on **Friday 22 July 2022**.

This application requested access to:

'Please supply:

- *The number of cases of blood clots have been recorded in the ACT in 2019, 2020, 2021?*
- *The number of cases of blood clots that were treated with tenecteplase (Metalyse) in 2019, 2020, 2021?*
- *Is there a shortage of tenecteplase (Metalyse) in the ACT currently?*
 - *If so, what is the current treatment for blood clots that would normally have been treated with tenecteplase (Metalyse)?'*

I am an Information Officer appointed by the Director-General of ACT Health Directorate (ACTHD) under section 18 of the FOI Act to deal with access applications made under Part 5 of the Act. ACTHD was required to provide a decision on your access application by **Friday 19 August 2022**.

In response to the first dot point request, the information within the scope of your access application has been extracted into a table. The table was created for the purpose of your request and captures information sourced from ACT public hospitals. Based on the available data, we have provided the number of ED Presentations and Hospital Separations for 2019, 2020 & 2021 where the primary diagnosis can be defined as a blood clot, based on advice from the ACT's clinical coding unit.

In response to the second dot point request, as data relating to the use of Metalyse as a treatment in the ACT is not currently available within the ACT Health Data Repository, it has not been included in this response.

In response to the third dot point request, information on the availability of Metalyse in the ACT has been provided below for your reference.

Decisions

I have decided to grant full access to the information provided in the table below.

My access decisions are detailed further in the following statement of reasons. In reaching my access decision, I have taken the following into account:

- The FOI Act;
- The contents of the documents that fall within the scope of your request;
- The views of relevant third parties; and
- The *Human Rights Act 2004*.

Full Access

Table: Blood Clot ED Presentations and Hospitalisations for 2019 – 2021
ACT Health Data Repository

Calendar Year	ED Presentations	Hospital Separations
2019	785	540
2020	847	525
2021	829	517

Methodology:

Emergency (ED) or Acute (hospital separations) presentations in ACT public hospitals where the primary diagnosis is a blood clot. These codes have been determined through consultation with Clinical Coders.

Information on the availability of Metalyse in the ACT

Information regarding the current shortage of tenecteplase (Metalyse) in the ACT can be found on the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) website;

[Shortage of tenecteplase \(Metalyse\) | Therapeutic Goods Administration \(TGA\)](#)

ACT public hospitals have a low historical use of tenecteplase (Metalyse) and have not yet been affected by this shortage.

Charges

Processing charges are not applicable to this request.

Disclosure Log

Under section 28 of the FOI Act, ACTHD maintains an online record of access applications called a disclosure log. The scope of your access application, my decision and documents released to you will be published in the disclosure log not less than three days but not more than 10 days after the date of this decision. Your personal contact details will not be published.

<https://www.health.act.gov.au/about-our-health-system/freedom-information/disclosure-log>.

Ombudsman review

My decision on your access request is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the FOI Act. You have the right to seek Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published in ACT Health's disclosure log, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision you may write to the Ombudsman at:

The ACT Ombudsman

GPO Box 442

CANBERRA ACT 2601

Via email: ACTFOI@ombudsman.gov.au

Website: ombudsman.act.gov.au

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal (ACAT) review

Under section 84 of the Act, if a decision is made under section 82(1) on an Ombudsman review, you may apply to the ACAT for review of the Ombudsman decision. Further information may be obtained from the ACAT at:

ACT Civil and Administrative Tribunal
Level 4, 1 Moore St
GPO Box 370
Canberra City ACT 2601
Telephone: (02) 6207 1740
<http://www.acat.act.gov.au/>

Further assistance

Should you have any queries in relation to your request, please do not hesitate to contact the FOI Coordinator on (02) 5124 9831 or email HealthFOI@act.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Culhane', written in a cursive style.

Michael Culhane
Executive Group Manager
Policy, Partnerships and Programs
ACT Health Directorate

18 August 2022