



LEGAL, INTERNATIONAL AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS

CASA Ref: F23/38756

Clinton McKenzie

Via email: clintonemckenzie@bigpond.com

Dear Clinton,

Access to documents under the *Freedom of information Act 1982*

I refer to your request received by CASA on 20 December 2023 seeking access to documents under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (the Act). Your request was for:

Documents identifying the official that authorised the addition, to the questionnaire that must be completed by an applicant for a medical certificate, the question requiring the applicant to state their ethnicity.

Documents recording the basis or bases upon which, and any material or references to material taken into consideration by, the official that either or both recommended or decided to add the question requiring an applicant for a medical certificate to state their ethnicity in their application for a medical certificate.

Documents recording what CASA proposes to do or does do about the various ethnicities stated by applicants for medical certificates.

Date range: 1 January 2022 to 20 December 2023

Decision

I am the decision maker for your request. I have not identified any documents to provide within the scope of your request.

While liaising with the Aviation Medicine Branch in relation to any documents identifying the official who made the decision to include the ethnicity question in the medical certificate application, CASA officer Phengrasmy was advised that there are no documents to provide since the decision to include the ethnicity question in the medical certificate application was a consensus decision made by the Senior Medical Officers (SMOs) at their annual meeting in February 2023.

This decision was part of our transition from using the legacy Cardiovascular Risk Index (CRI) to the PREDICT model for CVD risk assessment. It was a group decision endorsed by the SMOs, under the overarching authority of the Principal Medical Officer and Deputy Principal Medical Officer.

The decision to adopt the PREDICT model was informed by discussions with New Zealand PREDICT developers and a review of relevant literature, including publicly available publications from the NZ team that developed PREDICT. The PREDICT model incorporates several variables, including ethnicity, age, clinical history, and blood pressure, to calculate an individual's 5-year CVD risk.

Application for internal review of decision

Section 54 of the Act gives you the right to apply for an internal review of my decision. An application for internal review of my decision must be made in writing within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

No particular form is required, but it is desirable to set out in the application the grounds on which you consider that the decision should be reviewed. An application for review should be addressed to Freedom of Information at the address below:

Freedom of Information
Advisory and Drafting Branch
Legal, International and Regulatory Affairs Division
Civil Aviation Safety Authority
GPO Box 2005
Canberra ACT 2601

Review by the Australian Information Commissioner

Alternatively, under section 54L of the Act, you may apply to the Australian Information Commissioner to review my decision. An application for review by the Information Commissioner must be made in writing within 60 days of the date of this letter, and be lodged in one of the following ways:

online: https://forms.business.gov.au/smartforms/servlet/SmartForm.html?formCode=ICR_10
email: foidr@oaic.gov.au
post: Director of FOI Dispute Resolution, OAIC, GPO Box 5218, Sydney NSW 2001
phone: 02 9284 9666

Yours sincerely



Chirinjeev Saggar
Principal Lawyer
Advisory and Drafting Branch
Legal, International and Regulatory Affairs Division
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

19 January 2024