



8 May 2023

Dr Cindy de Villiers
cindy@nzdsos.com

Dear Dr. de Villiers

Correspondence regarding COVID-19 vaccination adverse reactions

Thank you for your email of 30 April 2023, to the Office of the Chief Coroner, sent on behalf of the steering committee of New Zealand Doctors Speaking Out With Science, regarding concerns about Aotearoa New Zealand's COVID-19 vaccination programme.

I acknowledge the sincerity of the views expressed.

Coroners are independent judicial officers and are not subject to directions by the Chief Coroner, or any other individual or entity. As Chief Coroner, I cannot direct coroners to direct post-mortems in any particular case. Coroners make directions based on the evidence before them in each case.

In addition, the testing performed during a post-mortem is determined by the pathologist conducting the examination, not the Coroner who directs it. Coroners rely on the medical expertise of pathologists to determine the specific testing to be performed during any post-mortem examination.

I intend to refer your letter to the pathologist who acts as pathology adviser to the Chief Coroner and coroners for his information and consideration.

I note that your letter raises concerns about pathologists, and the possibility of discussing with me Police crime scene protocols. Those are matters best addressed with the pathologists and New Zealand Police.

Thank you for writing.

Yours sincerely

Judge A Tutton
Chief Coroner