

**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Department of Health and Aged Care**

**Senate Community Affairs References Committee**

**Inquiry into Excess Mortality**

**13 June 2024**

**PDR Number:**

**Analysis of deaths by vaccination status**

**Spoken**

**Senator:** Gerard Rennick

**Question:**

Senator RENNICK: Sorry, could you say that again? You hadn't linked vaccination status to cause of death?

Dr Gould: That is correct, yes.

Senator RENNICK: So we can then analyse deaths by vaccination status; is that correct?

Dr Gould: That is correct.

Senator RENNICK: Is that information publicly available?

Dr Gould: There are a couple of things to take into account here. The research that I was alluding to before, which analysed the effectiveness of the vaccines in protecting against death for Australians over 65, used that dataset, and that was obviously referenced in the paper as the key source of information. As was discussed in a couple of the previous sessions, this data is person-level, so the ABS has appropriate protocols in place to make sure that people access that in a secure environment. We need to protect people's privacy, so there are mechanisms which the ABS has in place so that people outside of government, researchers, can access this data and produce their own research. I believe that—

Senator RENNICK: Sorry to interrupt, but can I access that? Can you take that on notice? Can I get access to that data please?

Dr Gould: That is not for me to decide. That is for the ABS to decide.

Senator RENNICK: Well, can you at least show me how to ask for that data?

**Answer:**

For details on access to integrated data assets such as the Person Level Integrated Data Asset (PLIDA) managed by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), including eligibility criteria, please refer to the ABS website [www.abs.gov.au/about/data-services/data-integration/access-and-services](http://www.abs.gov.au/about/data-services/data-integration/access-and-services).