

FOIA request to CDC re: "Ebola virus" purification

Christine Massey <[REDACTED]>
To: FOIARequests@cdc.gov

Mon, Mar 1, 2021 at 3:59 PM

March 1, 2021

To:
Roger Andoh
Freedom of Information Officer
1600 Clifton Rd NE MS T-01
Atlanta, Georgia 30333
Email: FOIARequests@cdc.gov
Phone: 770-488-6277
Fax: 770-488-6200

Dear Freedom of Information Officer,

This is a formal request for access to general records, made under the *Freedom of Information Act*.

Description of Requested Records:

All studies and/or reports in the possession, custody or control of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and/or the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) describing the **purification** of any "**Ebolavirus**" **said to have caused disease in humans (i.e. the "Ebola virus", "Sudan virus", "Taï Forest virus", "Bundibugyo virus")** (via maceration, filtration and use of an ultracentrifuge; also referred to at times by some people as "isolation"), directly from a sample taken from a diseased human, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of **genetic** material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka Vero cells; fetal bovine serum).

Please note that I am not requesting studies/reports where researchers failed to **purify** the suspected "virus" and instead:

- cultured an unpurified sample or other unpurified substance, and/or
- performed an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test) on all the RNA from a patient sample or from a cell culture, or on genetic material from any unpurified substance, and/or
- sequenced the total RNA from a patient sample or from a cell culture or from any unpurified substance, and/or
- produced electron microscopy images of unpurified things.

For further clarity, please note I am already aware that according to virus theory a "virus" requires host cells in order to replicate, and I am **not** requesting records describing the

replication of a "virus" without host cells.

Further, I am **not** requesting records that describe a suspected "virus" floating in a vacuum; I am simply requesting records that describe its **purification (separation** from everything else in the patient sample, as per standard laboratory practices for the purification of other small things).

Please also note that my request is **not limited** to records that were authored by the CDC or ATSDR or that pertain to work done at/by the CDC or ATSDR. Rather, my request includes any record matching the above description, for example (but not limited to) any published peer-reviewed study authored by anyone, anywhere, ever that has been downloaded or printed by the CDC or ATSDR and possibly (but not necessarily) relied on as evidence of a disease-causing "influenza virus".

If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that I may identify and access each one with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it). Please provide URLs where possible.

Format:

Pdf documents sent to me via email; I do not wish for anything to be shipped to me.

Contact Information:

Last name: Massey

First name: Christine

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Thank you in advance and best wishes,
Christine Massey, M.Sc.



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333
March 15, 2021

Mr. Christine Massey

[REDACTED]
Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Massey:

This letter is in response to your attached Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of March 1, 2021.

A search of our records failed to reveal any documents pertaining to your request. Specifically, the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases apprises they have not done virus isolation in the manner described in this request.

You may contact our FOIA Public Liaison at 770-488-6277 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you may administratively appeal by writing to the Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, Suite 729H, Washington, D.C. 20201. You may also transmit your appeal via email to FOIARequest@psc.hhs.gov. Please mark both your appeal letter and envelope "FOIA Appeal." Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted by June 13, 2021.

Sincerely,

Roger Andoh
CDC/ATSDR FOIA Officer
Office of the Chief Operating Officer
(770) 488-6399
Fax: (404) 235-1852

Enclosure
#21-00794-FOIA