



22 September 2021

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I refer to your request for information under the Official Information Act (Act) dated 11 September 2021.

You have requested “All studies and/or reports in the possession, custody or control of University of Otago describing the **purification** of any “**COVID-19 virus**” (aka “**SARS-COV-2**”, **including any alleged “variants”** i.e. “**B.1.1.7**”, “**B.1.351**”, “**P.1**”) (for example: via filtration, ultracentrifugation and chromatography), 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).”

I can confirm that the University holds no records which fall within scope of your request. Accordingly, we decline your request pursuant to section 18(g) of the Act on the basis that the information requested is not held by the University.

We note your right to seek a review of this decision via a complaint to an Ombudsman. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.

Yours sincerely

Kelsey Kennard
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar