



September 1, 2021

[REDACTED]
King of Prussia, PA [REDACTED]

ladmohan@yahoo.com

**RE: Right to Know Law Request
DOH-RTKL-COV-150-2021**

Dear M [REDACTED]

This letter acknowledges receipt by the Pennsylvania Department of Health (Department) of your written request for records under the Pennsylvania Right-to-Know Law (RTKL), 65 P.S. §§ 67.101-67.3104. The Department received your request on August 25, 2021. You requested:

[A]ny records that describe the isolation of a "COVID-19 virus" (aka "SARS-COV-2") from an unadulterated sample taken from a diseased human, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material. Isolate meaning a thing is separated from all other material surrounding it. I am NOT REQUESTING white papers where "isolation" of SARS-CoV-2 refers to: the culturing of something, performance of an amplification test (PCR) or the sequencing of something.

Your request is denied, as the Department is not in possession of records responsive to your request.

As a courtesy, the Department provides the following information: The Department interprets your request to seek records for the isolation of intact virus/viral particles of SARS-CoV-2.

Please be advised that the Department's molecular test processing is not isolating live virus or viral particles. The Department is isolating SARS-CoV-2 genetic material extracted from virus/viral particles in the patient specimen. That extracted genetic material is used in PCR reactions for the detection of the presence of SARS-CoV-2 genetic material in that extract.

The Department's Bureau of Laboratories utilizes COVID PCR assays which have received authorized EUAs from the FDA:

- (1) The CDC COVID RT-PCR assay described in the most recent approved update; and
- (2) The ThermoFisher COVID multiplex RT-PCR panel assay.

Please be advised that the Department does not possess information for all EUAs. However, FDA approved EUAs are publicly available for free by following this link:

<https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-emergency-use-authorizations-medical-devices/vitro-diagnostics-euas>.

Please be advised that this correspondence will serve to close this record with our office as permitted by law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa M. Keefer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a loop at the end of the last name.

Lisa M. Keefer
Agency Open Records Officer
Pennsylvania Department of Health
625 Forster Street
825 Health and Welfare Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0701

Date of Mailing: 09/01/2021