Public Health England Wellington House 133-155 Waterloo Road London, SE1 8UG www:public-health-england

foi@phe.gov.uk

This is my wish for access to records.

# **Description of Requested Records:**

All studies and/or reports and/or records in the possession, custody or control of the addressed body corporate describing the **purification** (i.e. via filtration and ultracentrifugation and chromatography) of any "**COVID-19 virus**" (aka "SARS-COV-2", including any alleged "variants" i.e. "B.1.1.7", "B.1.351", "P.1") directly from a sample taken from a diseased man, 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, liver cancer cells) and also studies and/or reports and/or records in the possession, custody or control of the addressed body corporate proving a causal link between Sars-Cov-2 and the suspected infectious disease Covid-19.

Please note that I am not requesting studies/reports where researchers failed to **purify** the suspected "virus" (separate the alleged "virus" from everything thing else in the patient sample) and instead:

- cultured an unpurified sample or other unpurified substance, and/or
- performed an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test) on the total RNA from a patient sample or from a cell culture, or on genetic material from any unpurified substance, and/or
- fabricated a genome based on PCR-detected sequences in 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 in a cell culture.

### **Clarification of Request**

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 private patient information, or 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 very small things).

Please note that my request includes any study/report matching the above description, for example (but not limited to) any published peer-reviewed study **authored by** 

# anyone, anywhere.

If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available in the public domain, 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: hobbs First name: yvonne

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Phone:

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Protecting and improving the nation's health

Public Accountability Unit Wellington House 133-155 Waterloo Road London SE1 8UG

www.gov.uk/phe

By email

Our ref: 18/09/21/ag/1345

20 September 2021

Dear Yvonne Hobbs,

Re: Covid-19

Thank you for your request received on 18 September 2021 addressed to Public Health England (PHE). In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), I can confirm that PHE does not hold the information you have specified.

#### Request

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produced electron microscopy images of unpurified things in a cell culture

In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the FOI Act, PHE can confirm that it does not holds the information you have requested.

Viruses are not independent living entities. They require a host cell substrate to replicate.

PHE's microbiology teams use the term "isolation" to mean culture in the laboratory. It is used sometimes interchangeably to mean isolation from a patient or clinical material – but usually implies that the organism has been grown in culture. An organism is identified by looking for its unique genetic material in a clinical sample and further identification is refined and confirmed by whole genome sequencing.

The Virus Reference Laboratory at PHE, Colindale, London has grown the virus, SARS-CoV-2. The virus culture method has been published in the following peer-reviewed paper: <a href="https://www.eurosurveillance.org/content/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2020.25.32.2001483">https://www.eurosurveillance.org/content/10.2807/1560-7917.ES.2020.25.32.2001483</a>

Several strains of the SARS-CoV-2 virus has been deposited to the European Virus Archive by PHE.

PHE's culture work on other SARS-CoV-2 variants is in progress and has not been published in any peer-reviewed papers at present.

Under Section 16, a public authority has a duty to provide advice and assistance. Accordingly, please find the following links below regarding evidence of COVID-19:

- SARS-CoV-2 has been cultured and then subjected to electron microscopy. Evidence of the Electron Micrograph is available at the following link: <a href="https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/05/what-do-we-know-about-the-new-covid-19-variants/">https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2021/02/05/what-do-we-know-about-the-new-covid-19-variants/</a>
- General information pertaining to SARS-CoV-2, which causes the disease known as COVID-19: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-background-information/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-epidemiology-virology-and-clinical-features">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-novel-coronavirus-epidemiology-virology-and-clinical-features</a>

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to me in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing <a href="mailto:foi@phe.gov.uk">foi@phe.gov.uk</a>.

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by calling the ICO's helpline on 0303 123 1113, visiting the ICO's website at <a href="https://www.ico.org.uk">www.ico.org.uk</a> or writing to the ICO at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely FOI Team