



13 October 2021



Official Information request – SARS-COV-2 and Variants purification by any method

I refer to your information request of 22 September 2021. The University of Waikato (**University**) has given due consideration to your request as follows:

“All studies and/or reports in the possession, custody or control of The University of Waikato 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; foetal bovine serum)”.

The University advises that there is no research being conducted on the COVID-19 virus by any staff member or student of the University, therefore under section 18 (e) of the Official Information Act 1982 the University refuses the request on the basis that the information requested is not held.

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jim Mercer'.

Jim Mercer
Chief Operating Officer