



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

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## FOIA request to CDC re: "Ebola virus" purification by any method

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Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Sun, Nov 21, 2021 at 2:29 PM

To: "FOIA Requests (CDC)" <FOIARequests@cdc.gov>

November 21, 2021

To:  
Roger Andoh  
Freedom of Information Officer  
1600 Clifton Rd NE MS T-01  
Atlanta, Georgia 30333  
Email: [FOIARequests@cdc.gov](mailto: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:

**Please note:** this request is very similar to another request that I submitted on March 1, 2021 (**21-00794-FOIA**) where I had **specified** purification via maceration, filtration and use of an ultracentrifuge and received a "**no records**" response. The difference with this new request is that it does **not** specify maceration, filtration and use of an ultracentrifuge; it mentions filtration, ultracentrifugation and chromatography only by way of an example.

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** (i.e. via filtration, ultracentrifugation and chromatography) of any "**Ebolavirus**" **said to have caused disease in humans (i.e. the "Ebola virus", "Sudan virus", "Tai Forest virus", "Bundibugyo virus")**, where the sample was not first combined with any other source of **genetic** material (i.e. a cell line; fetal bovine serum).

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

- cultured something, and/or
- performed an amplification test (i.e. PCR), and/or
- fabricated a "genome", 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. I am **not** requesting records describing the **replication** of a "virus" without host cells, nor records that describe a suspected "virus" floating in a vacuum or a strict fulfillment of Koch's Postulates, or private patient records. I simply request 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, **authored by anyone, anywhere**.

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: [cmssyc@gmail.com](mailto:cmssyc@gmail.com)

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



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

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## Your CDC FOIA Request #22-00390-FOIA

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**MNHarper@cdc.gov** <MNHarper@cdc.gov>  
To: cmssyc@gmail.com

Thu, Dec 16, 2021 at 8:48 AM

December 16, 2021

Request Number: 22-00390-FOIA

Dear Ms. Massey:

This is regarding your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of November 22, 2021, for request for 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 (i.e. via filtration, ultracentrifugation and chromatography) of any "Ebola virus" said to have caused disease in humans (i.e. the "Ebola virus", "Sudan virus", "Taï Forest virus", "Bundibugyo virus"), where the sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. a cell line; fetal bovine serum). Please note that I am not requesting studies/reports where researchers failed to purify the suspected "virus" and instead: • cultured something, and/or • performed an amplification test (i.e. PCR), and/or • fabricated a "genome", and/or • produced electron microscopy images of unpurified things.

Please see the attached letter.

Sincerely,  
CDC/ATSDR FOIA Office  
770-488-6399

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 **Final Response No Records.pdf**  
151K



December 16, 2021

Christine Massey

Peterborough, ON, Canada

Via email: cmssyc@gmail.com

Dear Ms. Massey:

This letter is in response to your Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (CDC/ATSDR) Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of November 22, 2021, for:

*Description of Requested Records:*

*Please note: this request is very similar to another request that I submitted on March 1, 2021 (21-00794-FOIA) where I had specified purification via maceration, filtration and use of an ultracentrifuge and received a "no records" response. The difference with this new request is that it does not specify maceration, filtration and use of an ultracentrifuge; it mentions filtration, ultracentrifugation and chromatography only by way of an example.*

*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 (i.e. via filtration, ultracentrifugation and chromatography) of any "Ebola virus" said to have caused disease in humans (i.e. the "Ebola virus", "Sudan virus", "Taï Forest virus", "Bundibugyo virus"), where the sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. a cell line; fetal bovine serum).*

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

- ☐ *cultured something, and/or*
- ☐ *performed an amplification test (i.e. PCR), and/or*
- ☐ *fabricated a "genome", 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. I am not requesting records describing the replication of a "virus" without host cells, nor records that describe a suspected "virus" floating in a vacuum or a strict fulfillment of Koch's Postulates, or private patient records. I simply request 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, authored by anyone, anywhere.*

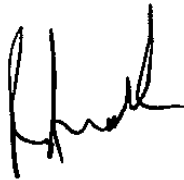
*If any records match the above description of requested records and are currently available to the public elsewhere, please provide enough information about each record so that I may identify and access each one with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it). Please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

A search of our records failed to reveal any documents pertaining to your request. Specifically, the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases states for the specified virus, the "procedure asked about in this FOIA request is not a methodology or procedure that the branch utilizes or has ever implemented. We routinely, per protocol, place samples on cell culture post sample receipt."

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](mailto: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 to the Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, via the online portal at <https://requests.publiclink.hhs.gov/App/Index.aspx>. Please mark both your appeal letter and envelope "FOIA Appeal." Your appeal must be electronically transmitted by March 16, 2022.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Roger Andoh', with a stylized, cursive script.

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

#22-00390-FOIA