

OIA: SARS-COV-2 Proof of Existence

Thu, Jul 7, 2022 at 12:58 PM

To: UoO - Official Information Act <oia@otago.ac.nz>

This is a formal request for access to general records, made under the *Official Information Act*.

Description of Requested Records:

All records in the possession, custody or control of the University of Otago that scientifically proves the existence of SARS-COV-2 virus.

Scientific proof is NOT

- Opinions
- Speculation
- Review papers
- Descriptive papers

Scientific Proof is

- Experiments that follow the scientific method
- Repeatable experiments that produce identical results
- Experiments all have valid control groups

Scientific Method

The scientific method is a process used to prove or disprove hypotheses. My request requires the hypothesis to include the claim of existence of SARS-COV-2 particles. If the records do not have a hypothesis or do not have a hypothesis that claims the existence of SARS-COV-2, then these records are disqualified from my request.

Repeatability

I am requesting records that only use the scientific method and where the experiments have been repeated multiple times where the results were 100% the same. For any of the SARS-COV-2 Genome Sequences, multiple experiments must have been conducted and produced a 100% match for the SARS-COV-2 genome sequence the researchers found. Records that have not been repeated with 100% matches for the SARS-COV-2 genome are disqualified from my request.

Controls

A control experiment is an experiment that has exactly the same parameters of the experimental group sans the variable being tested. For cell culture experiments, the control group should have exactly the same composition sans the SARS-COV-2 viruses. Experiments that do not have a valid control as defined are disqualified from my request.

Summary

Please provide all records that scientifically prove the existence of SARS-COV-2 as defined in this request.

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.

Note:

According to the University of Otago's OIA Response on 2022-06-22:

The paper published by Professor Quiñones-Mateu and colleagues was a descriptive paper. Such papers do not typically use hypothesis testing. This means there was no hypothesis to prove or disprove.

Descriptive papers such as Professor Quinones-Mateu and his colleagues wrote (Characterization of the First SARS-CoV-2 Isolates from Aotearoa New Zealand as Part of a Rapid Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic) have no hypothesis, are not scientific, and therefore are disqualified from my request.



3 August 2022



OFFICIAL INFORMATION REQUEST FOR ALL RECORDS IN THE POSSESSION, CUSTODY OR CONTROL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO THAT SCIENTIFICALLY PROVES THE EXISTENCE OF SARS-COV-2 VIRUS

I refer to your official information request dated 10 July 2022 for “all records in the possession, custody or control of the University of Otago that scientifically proves the existence of SARS-COV-2 virus.”

We have liaised with the Department of Microbiology and Immunology in respect of your request. Research by the University of Otago proving the existence of the SARS-COV-2 virus in New Zealand has been completed and is currently in the public domain. This includes Professor Quiñones-Mateu’s paper ‘Characterization of the First SARS-CoV-2 Isolates from Aotearoa New Zealand as Part of a Rapid Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.’ This study was published using validated and internationally accepted processes. The Department does not agree that this paper is “not scientific” simply because it does not have a hypothesis.

We note that we have already provided information to you in response to previous Official Information Act requests on the subject of SARS-COV-2 virus:

- On 8 September 2020, you requested information in relation to the isolation of SARS-COV-2 virus. We responded on 6 October 2020 with a detailed letter from Professor Miguel Quiñones-Mateu explaining how SARS-COV-2 is detected and isolated.
- In response to a request dated 20 January 2022, we provided a copy of Professor Miguel Quiñones-Mateu’s paper ‘Characterization of the First SARS-CoV-2 Isolates from Aotearoa New Zealand as Part of a Rapid Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.’

You have also requested that we provide sufficient information about relevant records that are already publicly available, so that you may identify and access each one with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it, and a URL where possible). We have decided to reject this aspect of your request under s 18(d) on the basis that this information is publicly available. The University is under no obligation to collate such information on your behalf.

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 'Kelsey Kennard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kelsey Kennard

Office of the Registrar



Official Information Act Request - Existence of SARS-COV-2 Virus

Thu, Aug 4, 2022 at 9:17 AM

[REDACTED]
To: UoO - Official Information Act <oia@otago.ac.nz>

Greetings University of Otago,

I am submitting a formal complaint per the requirements for the Official information act.

I am requesting the University of Otago rectifies their response by one of the following:

- 1) Provide the definition of scientific proof and the definition of the scientific method.
- 1) a) Show how Professor Mateu's papers that lack hypothesis are scientific and follow the scientific method

OR

- 2) The university of Otago to provide a valid response under the OIA that they do not hold any records for the scientific existence of SARS-COV-2 using the scientific method

For your reference - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scientific_method

Thank you

[Quoted text hidden]