



Christine Massey &lt;cmssyc@gmail.com&gt;

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**Access to Info Request: studies re isolation of SARS-COV-2**

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**Christine Massey** <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Thu, May 14, 2020 at 11:31 AM

To: [atip-airp@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:atip-airp@hc-sc.gc.ca)Bcc: [david.crowe@theinfectiousmyth.com](mailto:david.crowe@theinfectiousmyth.com)

May 14, 2019

Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator  
Health Canada  
Holland Cross - Tower B  
1600 Scott Street, 7th Floor, Suite 700  
Postal Locator: 3107A  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

E-mail: [atip-airp@hc-sc.gc.ca](mailto:atip-airp@hc-sc.gc.ca)

Telephone: 613-954-9165

Teletypewriter: 1-800-465-7735 (Service Canada)

**Description of Requested Records:**

All records describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).

Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: *the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else*. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead to:

- the culturing of something, or
- the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), or
- the sequencing of something.

[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 the public may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it).]

**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: #221 - 93 George St. S., Brampton ON L6Y 1P4

Phone: 905-230-4155

Email: [cmssyc@gmail.com](mailto:cmssyc@gmail.com)**Application Fee:**

I will submit a \$5 cheque by mail, payable to the Receiver General for Canada.

**Proof of Right:**

Please find a copy in the attached "BC" jpg file.

Thanks you in advance and best wishes,  
Christine Massey, M.Sc.  
Brampton ON L6Y 1P4

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BC.jpg  
161K



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

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## Access to Info Request: studies re isolation of SARS-COV-2

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Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Thu, May 14, 2020 at 11:38 AM

To: atip-aiprp@hc-sc.gc.ca

p.s. To clarify, I am requesting all such records that are in the possession, custody or control of Health Canada (for example:downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.).

[Quoted text hidden]



Christine Massey &lt;cmssyc@gmail.com&gt;

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**A-2020-000208/BH - requires your urgent response!**

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**Haase, Barbara (HC/SC)** <barbara.haase@canada.ca>  
To: "cmssyc@gmail.com" <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 11:42 AM

A-2020-000208/BH

All records describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).

Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead to:

- the culturing of something, or
- the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), or
- the sequencing of something.

To clarify, I am requesting all such records that are in the possession, custody or control of Health Canada (for example:downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.).

Good morning Christine,

I have tried to call you under the number you provided: (905) 230-4155 but this number does not appear to be in service.

Health Canada has no records for your request; however, PHAC may have. With your permission we would close this present file as abandoned, and open a new one under PHAC at no cost to you. Please let me know as quickly as possible if that is o.k. with you. Below is the comment that our OPIs from HC gave us:

A search of emails, electronic databases and files as well as hard copy materials uncovered no documentation describing the isolation of SARS-COV-2 viruses from patient derived samples. Health Canada is responsible for authorization of health products for use on the Canadian market and in clinical trials. This type of information would not typically be evaluated by Health Canada as part of the authorization of these activities. In addition, Health Canada does not work directly with patient samples or SARS-COV-2 virus as this would require Level 3 containment facilities which are not housed at Health Canada. Information on virus isolation would be best obtained from the Public Health Agency of Canada or the National Research Council.

Kind regards

**Barbara Haase**

Senior ATIP Analyst, Access to Information and Privacy

Health Canada / Public Health Agency Canada / Government of Canada

[Barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:Barbara.haase@canada.ca)



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

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**A-2020-000208/BH - requires your urgent response!**

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Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 12:53 PM

To: "Haase, Barbara (HC/SC)" <barbara.haase@canada.ca>, atip-aiprp@hc-sc.gc.ca

Dear Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator and Ms. Haase,

Thank you for the email and information from Ms. Haase.

My apologies - my phone number has changed to [REDACTED]

Since Health Canada plays a key role in COVID-19 activities and products (i.e. approving "37 clinical trials for potential COVID-19 therapies and vaccines" and authorizing dozens of test kits), and the legitimacy of those activities and products hinge very much on evidence and details regarding the existence of "SARS-COV-2", I do not wish for you to close this present file. I am not abandoning my request.

Please recall the postscript that I submitted along with my records request, and note that my request is not limited to records that were authored by Health Canada or pertain to work done by Health Canada. My request includes any sort of record, for example (but not limited to) any published peer-reviewed study that Health Canada has downloaded or printed.



Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>  
to atip-aiprp

Thu, May 14, 11:38 AM



p.s. To clarify, I am requesting all such records that are in the possession, custody or control of Health Canada (for example: downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy etc.)

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Thank you in advance and best wishes,  
Christine Massey, M.Sc.  
Brampton ON L6Y 1P4

[Quoted text hidden]



Christine Massey &lt;cmssyc@gmail.com&gt;

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**A-2020-000208/BH - requires your urgent response!**

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**Haase, Barbara (HC/SC)** <barbara.haase@canada.ca>  
To: Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 1:53 PM

Hello again,

We were offering to open a file under PHAC, as we were told by our subject matter experts that they have no documents, but that PHAC may have documents. We proposed to close this present file as ABANDONED and open instead a file with PHAC at no cost to you.

I will return to our experts and ask again that they do another search.

Please clarify what you mean as subtext: The highlighted text below is part of your request. I have repeatedly tried to call you at your new number but have not left a message.

Thank you

**Barbara Haase**

Senior ATIP Analyst, Access to Information and Privacy

Health Canada / Public Health Agency Canada / Government of Canada

[Barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:Barbara.haase@canada.ca)

Analyste principale, Accès à l'information et de la protection des renseignements personnels  
Santé Canada et Agence de la santé publique du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada  
[barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:barbara.haase@canada.ca)

**From:** Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

**Sent:** 2020-06-11 12:54 PM

**To:** Haase, Barbara (HC/SC) <barbara.haase@canada.ca>; atip / aiprp (HC/SC) <hc.atip-aiprp.sc@canada.ca>

**Subject:** Re: A-2020-000208/BH - requires your urgent response!



Christine Massey &lt;cmssyc@gmail.com&gt;

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**A-2020-000208/BH - requires your urgent response!**

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**Christine Massey** <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 2:08 PM

To: "Haase, Barbara (HC/SC)" &lt;barbara.haase@canada.ca&gt;

Dear Ms. Haase,

Thank you for your quick response.

I prefer that all my official communications with government agencies be in writing.

I would appreciate it if you could open a file with PHAC (and/or NRC) at no cost to me, **but I don't want the present file/request with Health Canada closed**. If need be, I will submit additional requests to PHAC and NRC.

I'm not sure what you mean by "*Please clarify what you mean as subtext: The highlighted text below...*". I don't see anything highlighted.

Thank you in advance and best wishes,

Christine Massey, M.Sc.

Brampton ON L6Y 1P4

[Quoted text hidden]



Christine Massey &lt;cmssyc@gmail.com&gt;

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**A-2020-000208/BH - requires your urgent response!**

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**Haase, Barbara (HC/SC)** <barbara.haase@canada.ca>  
To: Christine Massey <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 2:27 PM

Dear Ms. Massey,

Our OPI had come back to state that they have no records. That is why we offered to you to open a new request with PHAC and proposed that you abandoned this present one because the OPI had no records.

I have just gone back to the subject matter expert (OPI) and requested a **second search**. I will get back to you as soon as I have an answer. I have pointed out to the OPI the last sentence of your request which I have highlighted below in your earlier email (see below)

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Please note that your complete request text is as follows (below) and was as such forwarded to our OPI. If there is anything missing that you have provided to us and we have not added into the text, please let me know.

**All records describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).**

**Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead to:**

- **the culturing of something, or**
- **the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), or**
- **the sequencing of something.**

**To clarify, I am requesting all such records that are in the possession, custody or control of Health Canada (for example: downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.).**

Thank you

**Barbara Haase**

Senior ATIP Analyst, Access to Information and Privacy

Health Canada / Public Health Agency Canada / Government of Canada

[Barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:Barbara.haase@canada.ca)





Christine Massey &lt;cmssyc@gmail.com&gt;

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**A-2020-000208/BH - requires your urgent response!**

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**Christine Massey** <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 11, 2020 at 3:24 PM

To: "Haase, Barbara (HC/SC)" &lt;barbara.haase@canada.ca&gt;, atip-aiprp@hc-sc.gc.ca

Dear Access to Information and Privacy Coordinator and Ms. Haase,

I do not want the public record to indicate that I abandoned my request, because I have not abandoned it.

I did not request 2 searches. If a 2nd search is deemed necessary by Health Canada in order to sufficiently respond to my 1 request that was perfectly clear from the beginning, then so be it.

My request included the following (which was not included in Ms. Haase's last email):

*[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 the public may identify and access each record with certainty (i.e. title, author(s), date, journal, where the public may access it).]*

I look forward to Health Canada's final response in this matter.

Thank you,

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



Christine Massey &lt;cmssyc@gmail.com&gt;

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**A-2020-000208/BH**

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**Haase, Barbara (HC/SC)** <barbara.haase@canada.ca>  
To: "cmssyc@gmail.com" <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Tue, Jun 23, 2020 at 5:33 PM

A-2020-000208/BH

All records describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).

Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead to:

- the culturing of something, or
- the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), or
- the sequencing of something.

To clarify, I am requesting all such records that are in the possession, custody or control of Health Canada (for example:downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.).

Good afternoon,

You will soon receive a final *no records* response from Health Canada.

Please note that Health Canada's role is not to do pure scientific research and discovery. It is to review evidence provided by sponsors in order to make regulatory decisions to approve products and authorize clinical trials. You may wish to contact the sponsors of clinical trials and/or companies in order to get the information you seek.

**Barbara Haase**

Senior ATIP Analyst, Access to Information and Privacy

Health Canada / Public Health Agency Canada / Government of Canada

[barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:barbara.haase@canada.ca)

Analyste principale, Accès à l'information et de la protection des renseignements personnels  
Santé Canada et Agence de la santé publique du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada  
[barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:barbara.haase@canada.ca)



Christine Massey &lt;cmssyc@gmail.com&gt;

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**A-2020-00208 Final Response**

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**Haase, Barbara (HC/SC)** <barbara.haase@canada.ca>  
To: "cmssyc@gmail.com" <cmssyc@gmail.com>

Wed, Jun 24, 2020 at 8:31 AM

Good morning,

Please find attached our final Response.

Thank you

**Barbara Haase**

Senior ATIP Analyst, Access to Information and Privacy

Health Canada / Public Health Agency Canada / Government of Canada

[Barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:Barbara.haase@canada.ca)

Analyste principale, Accès à l'information et de la protection des renseignements personnels  
Santé Canada et Agence de la santé publique du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada  
[barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:barbara.haase@canada.ca)



**FinalResponse-A-2020-00208-2020-06-13.pdf**  
189K



Health Santé  
Canada Canada

Access to Information and Privacy Division  
7th Floor, Suite 700, Holland Cross - Tower B  
1600 Scott Street, (Mail Stop: 3107A)  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0K9

*Our file: A-2020-000208 / BH*

Christine Massey  
221 - 93 George St. S  
Brampton, Ontario  
L6Y 1P4

Dear Christine Massey:

This is in response to your request made under the *Access to Information Act* (the Act) for the following information:

**All records describing the isolation of a SARS-COV-2 virus, directly from a sample taken from a diseased patient, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material (i.e. monkey kidney cells aka vero cells; liver cancer cells).**

**Please note that I am using "isolation" in the every-day sense of the word: the act of separating a thing(s) from everything else. I am not requesting records where "isolation of SARS-COV-2" refers instead to:**

- **the culturing of something, or**
- **the performance of an amplification test (i.e. a PCR test), or**
- **the sequencing of something.**

**To clarify, I am requesting all such records that are in the possession, custody or control of Health Canada (for example:downloaded to a computer, printed in hard copy, etc.).**

Having completed a thorough search, we regret to inform you that we were unable to locate any records responsive to your request.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the processing of your request, please do not hesitate to contact Barbara Haase, the analyst responsible for this file, either by phone at 613-859-9073, by email at [barbara.haase@canada.ca](mailto:barbara.haase@canada.ca) or by fax at 613-941-4541, with reference to our file number cited above.

Please be advised that you are entitled to complain to the Office of the Information Commissioner of Canada concerning the processing of your request within 60 days of the receipt of this notice. In the event you decide to avail yourself of this right, your notice of complaint can be made online at: <https://www.oic-ci.gc.ca/en/submitting-complaint> or by mail to:

Office of the Information Commissioner of Canada  
30 Victoria Street  
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 1H3

Yours sincerely,



Digipally signed by Smith, Christine R.  
DN: cn=Smith, Christine R., ou=Government of Canada, o=Government of Canada, email=christine.smith@canada.ca  
Reason: I am the author of this document  
Location: your signing location here  
Date: 2020.05.24 07:50:34  
EmailProtection Version 3.7.0

Christine Smith

Team Leader, Access to Information and Privacy  
Health Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada / Government of Canada  
[christinen.smith@canada.ca](mailto:christinen.smith@canada.ca) / Tel: 613-862-6063

Chef d'équipe, Accès à l'information et de la protection des renseignements personnels  
Santé Canada et Agence de la santé publique du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada  
[christinen.smith@canada.ca](mailto:christinen.smith@canada.ca) / Tél: 613-862-6063