



ATISN 15390

31 August 2021

Dear ,

ATISN 15390 – Isolation of COVID-19 virus

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information under the Freedom of Information Act (2000) received on 05 August 2021 regarding the isolation of Covid-19 virus. You asked for the following:

To provide a full, accurate and complete list of records held describing the isolation of SAR-COV-19 virus. Directly taken from a symptomatic patient of COVID-19 where the sample was not first source of a genetic material thereby eliminating contamination as a possible alternative source of sampling.

You also provided the following instructions:

- *Please note isolation is the normally understood meaning of the word - the act of separating a thing from another. I am not referring, hence not requesting, the isolation meaning the culture of something else, the performance of an amplification test (eg PCR test which only detect MRNA or DNA) or the sequencing of "something".*
- *If any records match the above description and are available to the public elsewhere, please provide with enough information so that I may identify and access each record with certainty(i.e. title, author(s),date, journal and a web link where the public may access it)*

Response

The information being requested is readily available and previously published, therefore has been exempted under Section 21 on the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I have provided a link to the Welsh Government's Disclosure Log where this information can be located for your convenience: [FOI Release 15388: Isolation of COVID-19 virus | GOV.WALES](#)

Next Steps

The request you sent me contains personal information about you - for example, your name and address. The Welsh Government will be the data processor for this information and, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation, it will be processed in order to fulfil our public task and meet our legal obligations under the Act to provide you with a response.

We will only use this personal information to deal with your request and any matters which arise as a result of it. We will keep your personal information and all other information relating to your request for three years from the date on which your request is finally closed. Your personal information will then be disposed of securely.

Under data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data we hold about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection

For further information about the information which the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you wish to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer
Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ
Email: DataProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ
Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process

Yours sincerely,