



Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)
Atlanta GA 30333
June 10, 2021

Ms. Christine Massey
21 Keystone Avenue,
Toronto, M4C 1G9
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 May 4, 2021, 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 of any MERS (Middle East Respiratory Syndrome) "virus" (via maceration, filtration and use of an ultracentrifuge; also referred to at times by some people as "isolation"), 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; fetal bovine serum).

A search of our records failed to reveal any documents pertaining to your request. Specifically, the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases apprises that CDC does not purify or isolate any MERS virus in the manner described.

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; 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 by writing to the Deputy Agency Chief FOIA Officer, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, Suite 729H, Washington, D.C. 20201. You may also transmit your appeal via email to FOIARequest@psc.hhs.gov. Please mark both your appeal letter and envelope "FOIA Appeal."

Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted by September 9, 2021 .

Sincerely,

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