



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences
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October 20, 2021

Via Email to: 120163-15719534@requests.muckrock.com

Sara Cooke
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 120163
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Re: Public Record Request BIDLS-2021-209

Dear Sara Cooke:

This letter is in regard to the above referenced public record request received by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (the "Department" or "DPH") on October 18, 2021. This request has been assigned a tracking number: **BIDLS-2021-209**. Specifically, you requested:

- 1) All records of scientific laboratory tests, under a microscope, analyzing and identifying the COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) virus from isolated samples extracted from a human being. This sample must be taken directly from a human being, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material or contamination.
- 2) All records of scientific laboratory tests, under a microscope, analyzing and identifying the COVID-19 delta variant (SARS-CoV-2) virus from isolated samples extracted from a human being. This sample must be taken directly from a human being, where the patient sample was not first combined with any other source of genetic material or contamination.

The Department has no records responsive to your request.

To the extent you are seeing scientific information about the SARS-CoV-2 virus and COVID-19, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention makes COVID-19

Science and Research, including recent articles, publicly available here:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-and-research.html>.

DPH now considers this public records request closed. If you wish to challenge this response, and your request was received in writing, you may appeal to the Supervisor of Records following the procedure set forth in 950 CMR 32.08, a copy of which is attached. Pursuant to G.L. c. 66, §10A, you may also seek judicial review by commencing a civil action in Suffolk Superior Court.

Please contact Ann Scales, Director of Media Relations at 617-624-5253 with any questions. In any communication regarding this request, please reference the assigned tracking number **BIDLS-2021-209**.

Sincerely,

Gillian A. Haney, MPH Director

Director of Office of Integrated Surveillance and Informatics Services (ISIS)

Bureau of Infectious Disease and Laboratory Sciences, Massachusetts Department of Public Health

cc: Helen Rush-Lloyd, Records Access Officer
Ann Scales, Director of Media Relations