



Home Office

Animals in Science Regulation Unit
Home Office
4th Floor
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

07 October 2020

Mr Wynne Jones
minyrafon@btinternet.com

Dear Mr Jones,

Thank you for your email of 17 September in which you ask for information relating to Covid 19 candidate vaccine LNP-n CoV saRNA. Your request has been handled as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You ask for a copy of the project licence granted under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 in respect of "animal trial" of Covid 19 candidate vaccine LNP-n CoV saRNA or, alternatively, copy of letter of authorisation from Home Office if a licence is not required. When a project licence application is submitted to the Home Office the names of candidate vaccines may not be known and therefore not specified by name. Following a search in ASPeL our e-licensing database, no records have been found that reference the Covid 19 candidate vaccine LNP-n CoV saRNA. Furthermore, the Home Office does not provide letters of authorisation for specific animal trials. Since any individual animal trials would be conducted under project licence authority we would require details such as the title of that project in order to help you further.

You also request a copy of the project licence granted authorising progression from "animal trial" to "human trial" in respect of Covid 19 candidate vaccine LNP-n CoV saRNA or, alternatively, copy of letter of authorisation from Home Office if a licence is not required. The development of new drugs and medicines, together with the related safety and efficacy testing needed to meet regulatory requirements, continues to depend in part on the use of animals. Information resulting from tests carried out on animals may be used to support the application process into human trials. The Home Office does not authorise progression from animal trials to human trials, thus avoiding conflicts of interest.

If you are dissatisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review of our handling of your request by submitting a complaint within two months to foirequests@homeoffice.gov.uk, quoting reference **60430**. If you ask for an internal review, it would be helpful if you could say why you are dissatisfied with the response.

As part of any internal review the Department's handling of your information request would be reassessed by staff who were not involved in providing you with this response. If you were to remain dissatisfied after an internal review, you would have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the FOIA.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "B. Godson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "B".

Bernie Godson

Policy Advisor
Animals in Science Regulation Unit