



Mr Wynne Jones

Sent by email: Redacted

4 September 2020

Dear Mr Jones,

**Freedom of Information request: FOI2020/00249**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information request received on the 11 August in which you requested the following:

**Your request:**

*Details and results of the animal testing using candidate vaccine LNP-nCoVsaRNA, as referred to in the attached document.*

**Our response**

I can confirm that UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) holds some information relevant to your request for results from the research project you identified. This information was published in July 2020 in the research paper [Self-amplifying RNA SARS-CoV-2 lipid nanoparticle vaccine candidate induces high neutralizing antibody titers in mice](#)

<sup>1</sup> McKay, P., Hu, K., Blakney, A., Samnuan, K., Brown, J., Penn, R., Zhou, J., Bouton, C., Rogers, P., Polra, K., Lin, P., Barbosa, C., Tam, Y., Barclay, W. and Shattock, R., 2020. Self-amplifying RNA SARS-CoV-2 lipid nanoparticle vaccine candidate induces high neutralizing antibody titers in mice. *Nature Communications*, 11(1).

The paper contains information and data relating to a study into the immunizations of self-amplifying RNA encoding the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein encapsulated within a lipid nanoparticle (LNP) in mice. It discusses how the data provides an insight into the vaccine design and evaluation of immunogenicity to enable rapid translation to the clinic.

The study is supported by UKRI's Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), grant number: [EP/R013764/1](#)<sup>2</sup> and UKRI's Medical Research Council (MRC), grant number [MC\\_PC\\_19076](#)<sup>3</sup>, funded in partnership with other organisations including the Department of Health and Social Care. The award was made to Professor Robin Shattock at Imperial College London. As the research organisation holding the award Imperial College London is responsible for the management of the study and any results and would be best placed to respond to any further questions that you might have. For contact details please see the [Imperial College London website](#)<sup>4</sup>.

If you have any queries regarding our response or you are unhappy with the outcome of your request and wish to seek an internal review of the decision, please contact:

Head of Information Governance

Email: [foi@ukri.org](mailto:foi@ukri.org) or [infogovernance@ukri.org](mailto:infogovernance@ukri.org)

Please quote the reference number above in any future communications.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-020-17409-9>

<sup>2</sup> <https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=EP%2FR013764%2F1>

<sup>3</sup> [https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=MC\\_PC\\_19076](https://gtr.ukri.org/projects?ref=MC_PC_19076)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/>

If you are still not content with the outcome of the internal review, you may apply to refer the matter to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the review procedure provided by UKRI. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: <http://www.ico.gov.uk/>

If you wish to raise a complaint regarding the service you have received or the conduct of any UKRI staff in relation to your request, please see UKRI's complaints policy: <https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-and-standards/complaints-policy/>

Yours sincerely,

Anabel Raszpla  
Information Governance  
Information Rights Team  
UK Research and Innovation  
foi@ukri.org | dataprotection@ukri.org