

Our ref: FOI/2021/456

Name: Sarai Kestra
By email to: request-800215-3074a40d@whatdotheyknow.com

12 November 2021

Freedom of Information Team

Legal & Governance
University of Liverpool
Foundation Building
765 Brownlow Hill
Liverpool
L69 7ZX

E foi@liverpool.ac.uk
<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/legal/>

Dear Ms Kestra,

Your request for information received on 16 October 2021 has now been considered. A response to your enquiry is provided below.

This is a new request that is related to an FOI request we sent in October 2020. This previous request was titled: Licensing and patenting practices of COVID-19 technologies. This new request specifically asks for responses pertaining to the period Sept 2020 - October 2021, considering the COVID-19 pandemic, unless specified otherwise.

Can you release your internal strategy, policy, or any kind of public statement regarding the technology transfer (e.g. licensing, patenting) of COVID-19 related health technologies?

The University follows a standard internal evaluation and approval procedure when considering new technologies. This includes any technology relating to COVID-19. We consider the market application for a technology, stage of development and supporting data available, and the potential impact it can have on society.

Does the institution have a formal policy on licensing and patenting of health technologies? If yes, please provide a link or PDF to the relevant policy document.

No

Has the university considered updating their strategy regarding the licensing and patenting of health technologies since October 2021 in light of the pandemic?

Decisions are made on a case-by-case basis and new technologies are evaluated on their own merits. We recognise that any technology for COVID 19 could potentially have a huge societal benefit, and this would be considered when considering the route and speed to get to market for a new technology.

Please provide an Excel spreadsheet with headings as displayed below with all the COVID-19 related health technologies LICENSED by the university AND specify which countries they were licensed in AND specify whether they are exclusive or non-exclusive licenses (period: September 2020-October 2021).

The University of Liverpool has not licensed any technologies relating to COVID-19.

Please provide a list of patents granted to your organization for any COVID-19 related health technologies listed by patent family, indicating countries/regions in which the patent has been granted (period: September 2020-October 2021).

No patents have been published.

Does the institution have any plans on signing up to the Open-COVID pledge (<https://opencovidpledge.org/>) or any similar initiative that seeks to minimise intellectual property rights barriers during the COVID-19 pandemic(since January 2020)?

The University will review this on a case-by-case basis as we often have to consider the IP rights of multiple parties (funders, third parties) in each individual project but to date we have not yet signed up to the pledge.

Has the institution considered the licensing of COVID-19 related health technologies to the Covid Technology Access Pool (C-TAP) or the Medicines Patent Pool (MPP) during the pandemic (since January 2020)?

The University will review this on a case-by-case basis.

Has the institution signed on to the AUTM COVID-19 Licensing Guidelines (since January 2020)?

No

Has the institution with the WHO technology transfer hub during the pandemic (since January 2020)?

No

Has the institution shared their best practices on the technology transfer of COVID-19 health technologies with other institutions? **No**

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request for information, you have a right under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act to ask the University to review it; however, you must do so within 40 working days of the date of this response. Your request should include our reference number and explain the reason for requesting a review. Email foi@liverpool.ac.uk or write to the Freedom of Information Reviewer, Legal & Governance, University of Liverpool, Foundation Building, 765 Brownlow Hill, Liverpool L69 7ZX. We will respond to your request for an internal review within 20 working days of receipt.

Following an internal review, if you remain dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have a right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Telephone: 0303 123 1113 www.ico.org.uk.

There is no charge for making an appeal.

Yours sincerely

Kirsty Rothwell

Kirsty Rothwell

Freedom of Information Officer / Data Protection Co-ordinator
Legal & Governance