



Protecting and improving the nation's health

**By email**

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Our ref: 11/09/rp/1227

09 October 2020

Dear Steve Bryant,

**Re: KOCH'S POSTULATES**

Thank you for your email dated 20 July 2020. In accordance with Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act), I can confirm that Public Health England (PHE) does not hold the information you have specified.

**Your Request**

***"...documentation to prove that covid19/sars-cov-2 has passed Koch's postulates, specifically;***

***1 the suspected causative agent must be absent from all healthy organisms but present in all diseased organisms.***

***2 the causative agent must be isolated from the diseased organism and grown in pure culture***

***3 the cultured agent must cause the same disease when inoculated into a healthy susceptible organism.***

***4 the same causative agent must then be re-isolated from the inoculated diseased organism."***

**Response**

PHE can confirm that it does not hold the information you have specified.

Furthermore, we are not obliged to create information we don't hold in order to reply to FOI requests.

Under our Section 16 of the act, public authorities have a duty to provide advice and assistance. Accordingly, I have provided a link below to the PHE Covid-19 Epidemiology, Virology and Clinical Features page:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-background-information/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-epidemiology-virology-and-clinical-features>

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing [foi@phe.gov.uk](mailto:foi@phe.gov.uk).

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,  
FOI Team