

FOI 23/867

Dear

Many thanks for your request for information, dated 10 November 2023, where you asked the following:

How and in what way you believe and expect to achieve effective immunity and specifically herd immunity against covid 19 virus, which is mutating all the time creating dozens of different mutations every year, thus achieving to trick the immune systems even through natural infection?

Our Response:

We do not hold information on the herd immunity aspect of your question. The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) regulates medicines, medical devices and blood components for transfusion in the UK. As part of our role we authorise (license) vaccines, such as those used for COVID-19, based on an assessment of their quality, safety and efficacy. Information regarding the licensing of the COVID-19 vaccines, including those that have been developed for new variants that have emerged since the original strain, is available in the Public Assessment Reports, published on our website:

<https://products.mhra.gov.uk>

Your specific questions regarding immunity against COVID-19 at the population level are likely to fall within the remit of the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA).

They can be contacted as follows:

Email: InformationRights@UKHSA.gov.uk

Telephone: 020 7654 8000

The UKHSA also publishes 'the green book', which includes detailed information about the COVID-19 vaccines, the dosage and schedule for the UK, and recommendations for the use of the vaccines. It also discusses the emergence of new variants and has information on immunity. Please find a link to the relevant chapter of the green book below (Chapter 14a), which you may find useful:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-the-green-book-chapter-14a>

We now consider this request closed. If you are unhappy with our decision, you may ask for it to be reviewed. That review will be undertaken by a senior member of the Agency who has not previously been involved in your request. If you wish to pursue that option please email: info@mhra.gov.uk

After that, if you remain dissatisfied, you may write to the Information Commissioner at; The Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

They will make a decision on whether or not we have interpreted the FOIA correctly in handling your request.

Yours sincerely,
HQA FOI Team