

Hi Torsten,

The EM images were obtained directly from cell culture material.

Kind regards,

Dr Jason A. Roberts

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From: Druce, Julian

Sent: Monday, 5 October 2020 10:19 AM

To: Sharon Lewin <sharon.lewin@unimelb.edu.au>; Roberts, Jason <Jason.Roberts@vidrl.org.au>

Cc: tengelbrecht@gmx.net

Subject: RE: [EXT] Question re your paper "Isolation and rapid sharing of the 2019 novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2)

from the first patient diagnosed with COVID-19 in Australia"

Hi Torsten

The nucleic acid extraction was performed on isolate material recovered from infected cells. This material was not centrifuged, so was not purified through sucrose gradient to have a density band as such.

I will let Jason respond to the EM questions.

Regards

Julian

From: Torsten < tengelbrecht@gmx.net > Sent: Thursday, 1 October 2020 4:16 AM

To: Sharon Lewin < sharon.lewin@unimelb.edu.au >

Subject: [EXT] Question re your paper "Isolation and rapid sharing of the 2019 novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) from

the first patient diagnosed with COVID-19 in Australia"

UoM notice: External email. Be cautious of links, attachments, or impersonation attempts

Dear Sharon Lewin!

My name is Torsten Engelbrecht and I am Journalist in Hamburg. I am researching the SARS-CoV-2 issue. Please allow me the following questions re your article "Isolation and rapid sharing of the 2019 novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) from the first patient diagnosed with COVID-19 in Australia":

- 1. In your paper it says you "extracted RNA for whole genome sequencing of the viral isolate". Was RNA obtained from the density at which CoV particles band?
- 2. What is that density and did you obtain an EM showing the degree of purification?
- 3. Do the EM shots show ultracentrifuged, sedimented virus particles? And do images show the purified virus?

Thank you and best wishes, Torsten

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