

Von 谭文杰 <tanwj@ivdc.chinacdc.cn> ☆

Betreff **Re:3 Questions re your Study "A Novel Coronavirus from Patients with Pneumonia in China, 2019", II** 18.03.2020, 07:36

An Torsten ★

Kopie (CC) gaof@im.ac.cn ☆

Dear Dr. Torsten,

Thank you for your mail. here are the answers to your questions :

1. In your paper it says that "Supernatant from human airway epithelial cell cultures... was... ultracentrifuged to sediment virus particles". Does this refer to ultracentrifugation in a sucrose density gradient? And if so, was RNA obtained from the density at which CoV particles band?

Answer: In order to enrich the virus particles but not to purify them, the ultracentrifugation was performed. The details were: the culture supernatant was ultra-centrifuged directly without cushions and the pellets were re-suspended to carry out negative staining for EM detection.

2. What is that density and did you obtain an EM showing the degree of purification?

Answer: As mentioned above, the samples were enriched rather than purification. So we didn't get the density.

3. Is figure 3A an EM of the ultracentrifuged, sedimented virus particles? And is Figure 3A an EM of the purified virus?

Answer: The figure 3A is an image of sedimented virus particles, not purified ones.

4. You write "Bronchoalveolar-lavage fluid samples were collected in sterile cups to which virus transport medium was added". In this context the WHO recommends a "virus transport medium". Did you use the same or a very similar one?

Answer: we use the same one as the WHO recommends.

Best,

Wenjie

Von 谭文杰 <tanwj@ivdc.chinacdc.cn> ☆

Betreff **Re:3 Questions re your Study "A Novel Coronavirus from Patients with Pneumonia in China, 2019", II** 18.03.2020, 07:36

An Torsten ★

Kopie (CC) gaof@im.ac.cn ☆

From: Torsten <tengelbrecht@gmx.net>

Date: 2020-03-18 02:42:23

To: tanwj@ivdc.chinacdc.cn, gaof@im.ac.cn

Subject: 3 Questions re your Study "A Novel Coronavirus from Patients with Pneumonia in China, 2019", II

Dear Guizhen Wu, dear George F. Gao, dear Wenjie Tan!

Please allow me an additional question to the questions I have sent you some hours ago (see below):

You write "Bronchoalveolar-lavage fluid samples were collected in sterile cups to which virus transport medium was added". In this context the WHO recommends a "virus transport medium". Did you use the same or a very similar one? If no, what kind of "virus transport medium" did you use?

Best wishes, Torsten Engelbrecht

Torsten Engelbrecht

Am 17.03.2020 um 09:03 schrieb Torsten:

Dear Guizhen Wu, dear George F. Gao, dear Wenjie Tan!

My name ist Torsten Engelbrecht and I am journalist in Hamburg, Germany. I am currently researching an article about SARS-CoV-2. In this context I have read your paper "A Novel Coronavirus from Patients with Pneumonia in China, 2019". Please allow me the following 3 questions:

1. In your paper it says that "Supernatant from human airway epithelial cell cultures... was... ultracentrifuged to sediment virus particles". Does this refer to ultracentrifugation in a sucrose density gradient? And if so, 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. Is figure 3A an EM of the ultracentrifuged, sedimented virus particles? And is Figure 3A an EM of the purified

virus?

Many thanks and best wishes from Hamburg! Torsten Engelbrecht

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