



Medicines & Healthcare products
Regulatory Agency

MHRA Central Freedom of
Information Team
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London
E14 4PU

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[MHRA Website](#)

Our Ref: **FOI2026/00736**

6 August 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 8 July. You wrote:

I am writing in response to your letter dated 3rd July 2026 regarding our Freedom of Information request (Reference:

[REDACTED] submitted on 10th June 2026 and your advice to submit a narrower request that you would expedite.

Pursuant to the UK Freedom of Information Act 2000, on behalf of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] we request the disclosure of specific documentation and statistical data concerning the RECOVERY trial's Hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) arm review in May 2020.

NEW REQUEST

In your July 3rd response, you mention that you are holding the CHM Minutes from May 22nd 2020, June 1st, 2020, and June 5th, 2020 hence we would request these documents to be disclosed.

MHRA Response

We are unable to provide you with some of the information requested as it constitutes personal data of someone other than yourself and as such, it is being withheld in accordance with section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 40(2) exempts information in response to a request if it is personal data belonging to an individual other than the requester and it satisfies one of the conditions listed in the legislation. In this case the condition contained in section 40(3A)(a) applies - that disclosure would breach one of the data protection principles, specifically that "Personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner...".

We do not consider that disclosing this information is necessary or justified in order to satisfy your information request and the requirements of the FoI Act. In relation to this request, we consider that there is no strong legitimate interest that would override the prejudice to the rights and freedoms of the data subject.

Please note that this exemption has only been applied to personally identifiable information (PII) within the documents provided (e.g. names, contact details, employment details) and has not been used to withhold any documents in their entirety.

Please see the following table for documents that we found to be in scope of your request and their release status.

Document	Exemption
21st & 22nd May 2020 - CHM minutes	Released. Only PII Redacted – Section 40(2)
1st June 2020 - CHM minutes	Released. Only PII Redacted – Section 40(2)
5th June 2020 - CHM minutes	Released. Only PII Redacted – Section 40(2)

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team
Medicines & Healthcare products Regulatory Agency

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing foi.request@mhra.gov.uk or by writing to: MHRA Central Freedom of Information Team, 10 South, Colonnade, Canary Wharf, London, E14 4PU

Any request for an internal review must be received by us within 40 working days of the date of this letter. Please note we are not obliged to provide a review if it is requested after more than 40 working days.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: [ICO FOI and EIR complaints](#) or telephone 0303 123 1113.

Re-use of our information

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<https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>