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Iechyd Cyhoeddus
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Public Health
Wales

Freedom of Information request to Public Health Wales

FOI Reference:	FOI 580
Date request received	4th January 2021
Date information is due to be sent	1st February 2021

Information Requested:

Please confirm the amplification of pcr testing. If you are using 45x then surely that is picking up any respiratory illness be it cold or flu. Can you also confirm that the intensive testing in Merthyr did not pick up many cases because you were using lft testing because it gives a truer picture which does not suit the government agenda. The restrictions imposed on us in Wales since March has surely cost many more lives than it has saved, when can we expect the truth to come out?

Information provided for the answer:

Thank you for your recent request. I have considered your request and having consulted with the relevant department please find the information held within the scope of your request:-

The testing in Whole Area Testing in Merthyr used the Inova Lateral Flow Device which is significantly less sensitive than PCR testing. Comparative sensitivity is dependent on the testing context and delivery, but is quoted at between 40 – 80%.

I hope that this information is of assistance.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision, you should

write to the Corporate Complaints Manager, Public Health Wales NHS Trust, 3, Number 2, Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street, Cardiff, CF10 4BZ.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner for Wales

2nd Floor
Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH

Telephone: 029 2067 8400

Email: wales@ico.org.uk