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Public Health  
Wales

## Freedom of Information request to Public Health Wales

<b>FOI Reference:</b>	<b>FOI 554</b>
<b>Date request received</b>	<b>18<sup>th</sup> December 2020</b>
<b>Date information is due to be sent</b>	<b>20<sup>th</sup> January 2021</b>

### Information Requested:

Can I please be sent the data on what amplification factor is being used in all the laboratories to define what is positive and negative for coronavirus.

### Information provided for the answer:

Thank you for your recent request.

The real-time PCR assays in use in Wales for COVID-19 diagnostics all run for 45 cycles however, the cycle number where the sample is defined as RNA NOT DETECTED varies by platform and target gene detected by the system. This is defined by the manufacturer. One platform (Hologic) is isothermal, this means it does not cycle through temperature changes in the same way as the real-time PCR systems, therefore CT values are not reported by this system

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](mailto:wales@ico.org.uk)