

The image is the virus budding from an infected cell.
It is not purified virus

Malik Peiris

From: Torsten <tengelbrecht@gmx.net>

Sent: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 3:26 PM

To: malik <malik@hku.hk>

Subject: Questions re your Nature Medicine article "Emergence of a novel human coronavirus,threatening human health"

Dear Malik Peiris!

My name is Torsten Engelbrecht and I am journalist in Hamburg, Germany. I am researching the COVID-19 issue. Therefore, with much Interest I have read your *Nature Medicine* article "[Emergence of a novel human coronavirus threatening human health](#)". In this context please allow me the following 3 question:

1. In your article you write "SARS-CoV-2 can be readily cultured from clinical specimens, and viral isolates are now available in mainland China and elsewhere, including in our own laboratory". Was RNA obtained from the density at which CoV particles band (in your lab and according to your level of knowledge also elsewhere)?
2. What is that density and did you obtain (or do you know of) an EM showing the degree of purification?
3. Do your (or any other) EM shots show ultracentrifuged, sedimented virus particles? And do images show the purified virus?

Many thanks and best wishes,

Torsten Engelbrecht

Torsten Engelbrecht

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