



<[redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted]@rivm.nl>, CoronaGedragUnit <[redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted]@rivm.nl>

**Onderwerp:** Re: questions: Results

Dear [redacted] 5.1.2e

The short response to your answer is the following:

The project was approved by the Ministry of Public Affairs (PaG/BJZ/49986) and the Ethics Committee for Legal and Criminological Research (CERCO) at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam.

The longer response is included in the attached document on privacy CCTV that I used for my rebuttal when I got the same question for a recent ZonMW proposal I submitted (and received funding for under the file number 50-56300-98-603).

I also attached the final approval letter from the ethical commission approving the face mask study (that involved CCTV and street interviews). My permission from OM was originally for CCTV footage of robberies and conflicts in public (see attachment). It was extended to include "Covid-19 related conflicts in public" in an email correspondence (that I will forward now just in case).

Let me know if you need more info and thanks for keeping me posted.

Thanks.

[redacted] 5.1.2e

[redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted] 5.1.2e | Anthropologist and criminologist | [redacted] 5.1.2e Netherlands  
 Institute for Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR) | [redacted] 5.1.2e University of Copenhagen  
 | Telefoon: [redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted] 5.1.2e | @nscr.nl | Postadres: Postbus 71304, 1008 BH Amsterdam |  
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**Van:** [redacted] 5.1.2e <[redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted]@rivm.nl>

**Verzonden:** vrijdag 14 augustus 2020 22:23

**Aan:** [redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted] 5.1.2e

**CC:** [redacted] 5.1.2e @soc.ku.dk; [redacted] 5.1.2e; [redacted] 5.1.2e [redacted] 5.1.2e; CoronaGedragUnit

**Onderwerp:** questions: Results

Dear [redacted] 5.1.2e

I have informed our colleagues at the ministry, but I have also asked our virology -colleagues if they have any additional questions or remarks. Good to wait their respons before we can decide to go ahead with publication this wednesday.

From the ministry-side I already received a comment that the research may receive criticism from a privacy perspective (big brother is watching / did the people know they participated in a research / is it necessary they know?) Since you conduct more research with CCTV footage I presume you have a response to this we could use?

kind regards,

[redacted] 5.1.2e

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**Van:** [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>  
**Datum:** 14 augustus 2020 om 17:31:09 CEST  
**Aan:** [redacted]@nscr.nl <[redacted]@nscr.nl>  
**CC:** [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>, [redacted]@soc.ku.dk <[redacted]@soc.ku.dk>, [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>, [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>, CoronaGedragsUnit <[redacted]@rivm.nl>

**Onderwerp:** FW: Results

Dear [redacted]

Thank you so much for this quick delivery!

Good talking to you just now. Just to summarize what we discussed:

1. NSCR will publish the results on your website not before this Wednesday
2. RIVM will inform the Dutch ministry of health about the results before Wednesday
3. Our press communication officers (for RIVM: [redacted] [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]) will get in touch in order to fine-tune the press message by NSCR.
4. RIVM will still have to decide if we want to send out a press message as well, or just publish it on our website <https://www.rivm.nl/gedragsonderzoek> (extra link under 'snel verdiepend onderzoek')
5. We will inform you if it is ok to share the results under embargo already on Tuesday with specific press for publication in Wednesday newspapers.

Hope this is a good way to get the results out in the open next week!  
Have a good weekend!

**Met hartelijke groet,**

[redacted]



[redacted] [redacted]  
RIVM Centrum Gezondheid en Maatschappij | Corona Gedragsunit ([redacted]@rivm.nl)  
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[RIVM De zorg voor morgen begint vandaag](#)

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**From:** [redacted] <[redacted]@nscr.nl>  
**Sent:** vrijdag 14 augustus 2020 15:11  
**To:** [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>  
**Cc:** [redacted] <[redacted]@rivm.nl>, [redacted] <[redacted]@soc.ku.dk>  
**Subject:** Results

Dear [redacted]

As 5.1.2e explained in his mail, we just finished an assignment for the RIVM about the effect of face masks on risk behavior in public space (I attached the description).  
 Attached is our deliverable in the form of a short preprint of our preliminary results.  
 We have been working on extending the results into a scientific publication too, and are planning to submit that publication to a journal within a few weeks (we are close to have it done). When we submit the publication we will as a standard upload the pre-peer-reviewed version on a publicly available repository.  
 Please feel free to already now publicly announce our preliminary results. If you would like me to do it or to get involved in that process please let me know. If you decide to do it yourself please inform me so I can be prepared about potential questions. If you decide not to go public now, we will announce the existence of pre-peer-reviewed version publicly when we upload it to the repository.  
 I am very curious about your reactions. Feel free to phone me if you have questions or want us to add anything (5.1.2e).

Thanks for allowing us the opportunity to do this.

As 5.1.2e said we are busy evaluating the face mask zones in Amsterdam and Rotterdam, which will eventually also result in interesting new insights hopefully.

5.1.2e  
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5.1.2e

**From:** 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@rivm.nl>  
**Sent:** donderdag 13 augustus 2020 16:40  
**To:** 5.1.2e <13@soc.ku.dk>; 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@nscr.nl>  
**Cc:** 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@rivm.nl>  
**Subject:** RE: Antw: Results tonight

Hi 5.1.2e

If you google 'thuisblijven testen rivm' it should be the first link. The Italian study is in there with the seres studies.

I won't be on email for the next 10 days. In case of any urgent issues please ask 5.1.2e (cc).

5.1.2e, 5.1.2e and 5.1.2e are working on finalising the report of the first study on face masks. Their team is currently also working flat out on evaluating Amsterdam and Rotterdam setting; including context analyses and interviews on top of the cctv work.

All the best

5.1.2e

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**Van:** 5.1.2e <13@soc.ku.dk>  
**Datum:** 13 augustus 2020 om 14:20:53 CEST  
**Aan:** 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@rivm.nl>; 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@nscr.nl>  
**Onderwerp:** RE: Antw: Results tonight

Hi 5.1.2e

Thanks a lot for the comments! We are back at the drawing board, detailing. Would you mind sending the reference to the Italian study mentioned (not sure I have the right one), and also the link to the RIVM recent review—I have looked at the homepage but without luck.

Best,

5.1.2e

From: 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@rivm.nl>  
 Sent: 12. august 2020 21:07  
 To: 5.1.2e <1.1@soc.ku.dk>; 5.1.2e 5.1.2e 5.1.2e <5.1.2e@nscr.nl>  
 Subject: RE: Antw: Results tonight

Dear 5.1.2e and 5.1.2e

Thanks for this succinct and clear presentation of results.

I have a few minor points that maybe you could address. I also think it would be useful if after processing those, we also ask our virology colleagues whether they have additional questions. To ensure the results are as relevant as possible.

Minor points:

- perhaps skip conclusions such as 'this is different than previously suspected' if this is not supported by an authoritative paper or policy document.

- some percentages can now be read as eg 11% of the people, whereas this also includes a time window in the coding (eg 30s). Probably good to include

- when possible, please include an absolute effect size incl 95%ci such as for the differences in risky face touching. Helps to evaluate degree of relevance

- when looking at distance, a key point has been in policy making this fake sense of security. I would mention that as well as that there are some studies suggesting distance increases (in an more experimental design). The study that may be most relevant to compare with this study is the Italian study on the side walks (rather than in cues?), which observed a quite large effect that we are clearly not seeing here.

We've just updated a literature review on these behavioural effects of face masks on our website, perhaps also check that document for useful references and potential limitations of this study and others. Would be useful to have the results being placed in the context of that literature if possible (perhaps a single paragraph on how this study relates to the larger evidence base?).

All the best

5.1.2e

Ps. If I don't respond anymore after this, please feel free to forward to the virology team to see if they think that all the relevant details are covered? Would be good to reference somewhere at the start that this is done/partly funded by the RIVM behavioural unit so that it's clear where it's coming from within rivm

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