Mutation of SARS-CoV-2: current variants of concern

Mutations of SARS-CoV-2 that cause COVID-19 have been observed globally. Viruses, in particular RNA viruses such as coronaviruses, constantly evolve through mutations, and while most will not have a significant impact, some mutations may provide the virus with a selective advantage such as increased transmissibility. Such mutations are cause of concern and they need to be monitored carefully.

Name: VOC 202012/01  
First detected: Sept 2020  
Country of first detection: United Kingdom  
First detected in EU/EEA: 9 Nov 2020  
EU/EEA countries with cases detected by 19 Jan 2021: 23  
Concern: increased transmissibility

Name: 501Y.V2  
First detected: Oct 2020  
Country of first detection: South Africa  
First detected in EU/EEA: 28 Dec 2020  
EU/EEA countries with cases detected by 19 Jan 2021: 10  
Concern: increased transmissibility and possible reduction of vaccine effectiveness

Name: P.1  
First detected: Jan 2021  
Country of first detection: Brazil and Japan  
First detected in EU/EEA: not yet detected in the EU/EEA  
EU/EEA countries with cases detected by 19 Jan 2021: 0  
Concern: increased transmissibility and possible reduction of vaccine effectiveness

#COVID19
Learn more in the latest risk assessment by ECDC on SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern http://bit.ly/RRAVariants1