

Klachkova, Anastasiya (CSC/SCC)

From: Dunn Kathleen (NHQ-AC)
Sent: March 2, 2021 10:35 AM
To: Varsaneux Olivia (NHQ-AC); Kom Emily (NHQ-AC); Heurter Dan (ONT)
Cc: Clement Chris (NHQ-AC); Ma Kristina (NHQ-AC); VanDalen Madison (NHQ-AC)
Subject: RE: A New Coronavirus Variant Is Spreading in New York

Here are the latest numbers from PHAC (Theresa Tam @CPHO)

To date, 1,254 Variants Of Concern cases (↑244 since Feb 25), including 1,152 (↑188) B.1.1.7, 99 (↑55) B.1.351 & 3 P.1 have been reported, with numbers highest in Ontario, Alberta, British Columbia & Quebec, respectively

From: Dunn Kathleen (NHQ-AC)
Sent: March 2, 2021 9:50 AM
To: Varsaneux Olivia (NHQ-AC) <Olivia.Varsaneux@CSC-SCC.GC.CA>; Kom Emily (NHQ-AC) <Emily.Kom@CSC-SCC.GC.CA>; Heurter Dan (ONT) <Dan.Heurter@csc-scc.gc.ca>
Cc: Clement Chris (NHQ-AC) <Chris.Clement@CSC-SCC.GC.CA>; Ma Kristina (NHQ-AC) <Kristina.Ma@CSC-SCC.GC.CA>; VanDalen Madison (NHQ-AC) <Madison.VanDalen@CSC-SCC.GC.CA>
Subject: A New Coronavirus Variant Is Spreading in New York

Good morning
Possibly another VoC?

Article in NYT and a couple of pre-print articles

- The New York variant, B.1.526, w/ 2 preprints supporting its immune evasion property, is the subject of more concern

WHO also issued a warning, along with CDC – that we are not out of the woods yet

- All of the public health measures (masks, distancing, hand hygiene) need to remain in place while we roll out COVID19 vaccines, says WHO's @mvankerkhove. "If the last week tells us anything, it's that this virus will rebound, if we let it. We cannot allow it to take off again."

A New Coronavirus Variant Is Spreading in New York, Researchers Report

The variant contains a mutation thought to help the virus dodge the immune system, scientists said.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/02/24/health/coronavirus-variant-nyc.html>

Prognosis

New York Covid-19 Variant Expands Reach in U.S. With 735 Cases

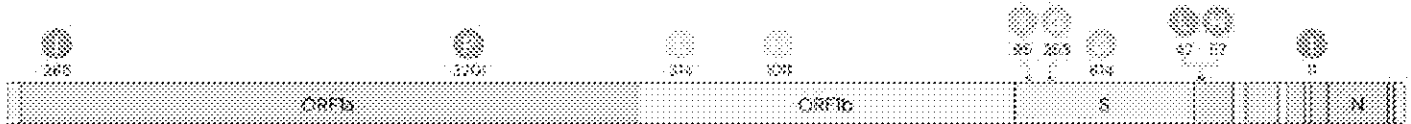
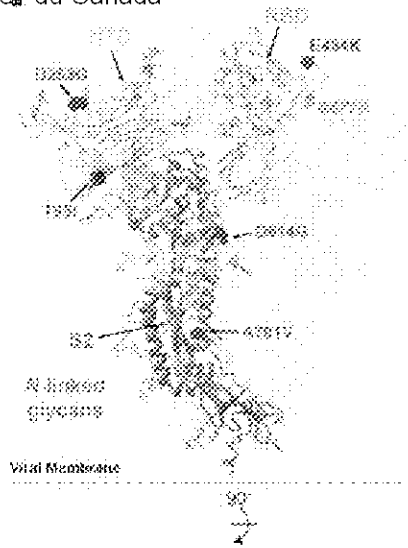
By Emma Cochrane, Josh Winesome, and Jordan Fabian

March 1, 2021, 10:35 AM PST Updated on March 1, 2021, 2:40 PM PST

A New Coronavirus Variant Is Spreading in New York, Researchers Report

The variant contains a mutation thought to help the virus dodge the immune system, scientists said.

Published Feb. 24, 2021 Updated Feb. 25, 2021



Immune evasion ≠ vaccine resistance

The E484K (eek) mutation that may be driving its Δ response to monoclonal antibodies in vitro is also found in P.1 and B.351 to which vaccines (J&J, Novavax) have shown preserved (w/ some reduction) of efficacy

Found ~140 genomes related to the B.1.526 variant from NE US, suggesting that E484K is now widespread and that variants can spread in regions with a relatively high seroprevalence. E484K has appeared in 59 different lineages (convergent evolution).