



Gardian August 2022 Clinical Update

GardianT3 cleared to detect the latest Omicron Variants BA 4, BA 5 and BA 2.75

Given the continuous evolution of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, it is important to continually develop our understanding of the impact of new variants, and more specifically, those that are classified as Variants Of Concern (VOC).

The latest VOCs have largely replaced other co-circulating SARS-CoV-2 variants. Delta reached almost 90% of all viral sequences submitted by October 2021, and Omicron is currently the dominant variant circulating globally, accounting for >98% of viral sequences shared after February 2022.

As the transmission of the VOCs are sustained, this has led to significant intra-VOC evolution. It should be noted that since its designation on 26 November 2021, the Omicron complex has continued to evolve, leading to descendent lineages with different genetic constellations of mutations. Each constellation may or may not differ in the public health risk it poses.

In light of the widespread transmission of Omicron across the globe and the subsequent expected increased viral diversity, there are now 2,110 recorded variants since Covid-19 was first identified.

Updates on SARS-CoV-2 variants, together with summaries of their characteristics including transmissibility, disease severity, risk of reinfection, impacts on diagnostics and vaccine performance and therapeutics are constantly being tracked and documented in published studies.

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In keeping with our philosophy of providing a better way to care, Gardian has a dedicated clinical team that is continuously investigating these lineages with regards to the global situation, and as emerging variants are identified, they evaluate the potential impact of these mutations on our products.

We are proud to be able to advise that based upon new (clinical and analytical) evidence received, the Gardian T3 saliva-based rapid antigen tests are capable of detecting the latest Omicron Variants BA 4, BA 5, and BA 2.75, with an ongoing Limit of Detection of 10 TCID₅₀/ml.

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