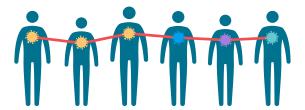


5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT COVID-19 VARIANTS

THE MORE A VIRUS SPREADS, THE MORE IT CHANGES

Mistakes can happen in the genes of a virus when it reproduces and spreads. These genetic changes are called mutations and can lead to new variants, or different versions, of a virus.



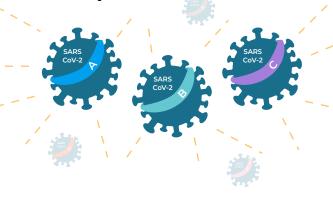
IT IS NORMAL FOR VIRUSES TO CHANGE

In countries where variants have been present for months, they have become the main strain of COVID-19.



2 VARIANTS MAY ACT DIFFERENTLY THAN THE ORIGINAL VIRUS

Variants of concern cause the same disease as the original COVID-19 virus with similar symptoms. They can spread more easily and/or lead to more severe or deadly sickness.



VACCINES STILL HELP PROTECT US

Approved vaccines still work against COVID-19 variants but may be less effective against certain ones. Vaccines are an extra layer of protection.



PUBLIC HEALTH PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES PROTECT US FROM VARIANTS













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