

30 November 2021

SARS-CoV-2 Variant Detection

Given the rising concern for the latest SARS-CoV-2 Variant of Concern (VOC), named Omicron by WHO, Veredus has taken a proactive approach to determine its detectability using our SARS-CoV-2 Detection kits.

Veredus' latest regular bioinformatic checking (last updated on 27 Nov 2021) with the GISAID database has confirmed that of the 91 deposited sequences in the databases, the VereRT™ COVID-19 PCR and VereRT™ ZeroPrep™ COVID-19 PCR detection kits and VereCoV™ OneMix Detection kit are able to confidently detect for the Omicron variant.

In the event if any of the isolates in the Omicron variant is/ are detected during our regular checking, functional validation will be undertaken immediately to ascertain our kits' performance with the affected isolate/s.

A summary of our analysis of the Omicron variant against primers and probes used in VereRT™ COVID-19 PCR, VereRT™ ZeroPrep™ COVID-19 PCR detection kits and VereCoV™ OneMix Detection kits are tabulated below.

| WHO VOC Classification | Pango Lineage | Origin of emergence | (No. of detection incompatibility) / (Total no. of SARS-CoV-2 Genome cross checked against) | Detectability using VereRT™ COVID-19 PCR Kit | Detectability using VereCoV™ OneMix Detection Kit | Detectability using VereRT™ ZeroPrep™ COVID-19 PCR detection Kit |
|------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Omicron | B.1.1.529 | S. Africa | 0 / 91 | 100%* | 100%** | 100%* |

*: At least one of the two N gene targets in the kit is detectable.

** : At least 2 out of the 5 target regions on the chip are detectable.

Sincerely,



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