

18 May 2022

SARS-CoV-2 Variant Detection

World Health Organization (WHO) has been monitoring and assessing the evolution of SARS-CoV-2 since January 2020, and the emergence of new strains in recent months has triggered the characterisation of SARS-CoV-2 variants.

Veredus Laboratories is continuously monitoring the global situation of COVID-19 pandemic and conducting extensive impact assessment of SARS-CoV-2 variants on **VereCoV™ OneMix Detection Assay**, **VereRT™ COVID-19 PCR Assay** and **VereRT™ ZeroPrep™ COVID-19 PCR Assay**.

As of 18 May 2022, Veredus' latest bioinformatic check against the BA.4 and BA.5 sub-variants with GISAID database has confirmed that, amongst respective deposited sequences in the database, the abovementioned Veredus' detection assays are able to confidently detect for the Omicron sub-variant lineages, BA.4 and BA.5, independently.

A summary of our analysis is tabulated below.

WHO VOC Classification	Pango lineage	Origin of detection	(No. of detection incompatibility) / (Total no. of SARS-CoV-2 genome cross-checked against)	Detectability using VereRT™ COVID-19 PCR Kit	Detectability using VereRT™ ZeroPrep™ COVID-19 PCR Kit	Detectability using VereCoV™ OneMix Detection Kit
Omicron	BA.4	South Africa	0 / 911	100%*	100%*	100%**
	BA.5		0 / 864			

* At least 1 of the 2 N gene targets in the VereRT™ PCR assay is detectable

** At least 2 of the 5 target regions on the VereChip™ are detectable

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