



Seegene Rapidly Introduces New PCR Test that Identifies the Omicron Variant, its Stealth Version, and all VOCs in a single tube

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Global Marketing Center

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To WHOM IT MAY CONCERN,

To directly respond to the advent of Omicron and a new version of Omicron, Omicron stealth, we would like to inform you about launching Seegene's new assay, **Novaplex™ SARS-CoV-2 Variants VII Assay**, with the hope of helping to prevent further spread of the most concerned COVID19 variants recently surged.

1. Seegene's New Variant Assay; Novaplex™ SARS-CoV-2 Variants VII Assay

On Dec 20, 2021, Seegene will launch the new assay in the market, enabling it to differentiate Omicron from delta and even Omicron Stealth simultaneously. In the case of Omicron stealth, it lacks a particular mutation such as HV69/70del. Therefore, other up-to-date available assays now in a market do not flag them up. However, Seegene's new assay targeting three specific mutation sites for Omicron can tell each variant depending upon patterns of results (please see below table). As shown in the table, other variants such as Alpha, Beta/Gamma, Delta, Omicron, and even Omicron Stealth can be differentiated.

Table. Example of Seegene's Assay results to Omicron Variants

Associated Variants		Novaplex™ SARS-CoV-2 Variants VII Assay				Results
		HV69/70del	E484A	N501Y	RdRP	
Omicron	BA.1	+	+	+	+	<u>Omicron</u>
	BA.2 (Stealth)	-	+	+	+	<u>Omicron Stealth</u>
Alpha		+	-	+	+	Alpha
Beta/Gamma		-	-	+	+	Beta/Gamma
Delta		-	-	-	+	Delta

2. Status of Omicron Variants and Omicron Stealth Variants

Scientists first announced their discovery of Omicron on November 24, 2021. The World Health Organization (WHO) designated it a Variant of Concern (VOC) just two days later, based on its unusually large number of mutations and early evidence of its spread. Despite a series of rapidly implemented travel bans, it has now been reported in about 1,111 cases at least 41 countries in 2 weeks of being first reported to WHO. Another variant, Omicron Stealth (BA.2) first was reported on December 6, 2021.

Seegene will actively cooperate with governments around the world who are willing to adopt the test to help understand and contain Omicron's spread.

For more detailed information about this update, please contact your regional manager.



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