

# **Variant of concern (VOC)**

## **Delta Variant B.1.617.2.**

The Delta variant was previously known as the “Indian variant” or “Pango” lineage as it was first found in India. It's one of three sub-lineages of the Indian variant, and is also known as B.1.617.2.

The Delta variant has multiple mutations that appear to give it an advantage over other strains. The most important apparent advantage is that the mutations may make the strain more transmissible, which would also make it the most dangerous variant yet.

**Symptoms** are usually more severe than COVID-19 and are linked to

- a. Gastrointestinal issues
  - a. Nausea
  - b. Diarrhea
  - c. Abdominal pain
  - d. Loss of appetite
  - e. Hearing loss
  - f. Gangrene
  - g. Blood clotting

## **Delta Varian B.1.617.2.**

- a. Increased transmissibility
- b. Highly infectious
- c. Potentially more deadly
- d. Currently makes up 6% of sequenced COVID-19 cases in United States (now in 8 states)
- e. Peaking in younger people especially age 12-20

## **Recommendations:**

- 1. Get vaccinated
  - a. Two doses of AstraZeneca 60 % effective
  - b. Two doses of Pfizer 88% effective.
  - c. One dose of either vaccine does not work very well and is only 33% effective
- 2. Reduce social mixing
- 3. Increase adherence to public health and social measure (PHSM)
- 4. Avoid mass gatherings

## References:

1. Delta Variant-Fauci. Retrieved from <https://www.webmd.com/lung/news/20210608/fauci-delta-variant-covid>
2. Pfizer, AstraZeneca Shots Work Against Indian Variant. Retrieved from <https://www.webmd.com/vaccines/covid-19-vaccine/news/20210525/pfizer-astrazeneca-vaccines-indian-variant-study>
3. Tracking SARS-CoV-2 variants. World Health Organization. Retrieved from <https://www.who.int/en/activities/tracking-SARS-CoV-2-variants/>