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Subject: There is no new Covid strain. Boris is panicking in ignorance as the modelling prof Ferguson is still active!

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Variants and strains for busy people

Mutation of covid

What does it mean ?

It means a change in a genome every 1 in a 1000 to every 1 in a million.

Nb. A new variant is not a new strain

Does it matter?

Not really. If it did the virologist would call it a strain. (not call it a variant)

There are no new strains yet.

Should We Be Worried About “Kent Covid”?

Vincent Racaniello, who is Professor of Virology at Columbia University and co-author of the textbook *Principles of Virology*, explains in a [new video](#) why he is not worried about the new virus variant.

The Government’s evidence, he says, is all “circumstantial”, being based in poor epidemiological data rather than biological data, and beset with problems of relying on PCR testing, which “does not detect infectious virus”. The argument of NERVTAG is “completely flawed”, he thinks, and he sees no reason to think this mutation is any more concerning than any of the others that have been identified. “If anything this variant is going to cause less severe disease,” he says.

Well [worth a watch](#).

Ross Clark in the *Spectator* has crunched the numbers and found there seems no reason to think the new variant is any more virulent (deadly). If there were a dramatic difference between the death rate between the old and new strains, however, it would presumably start to show up in the regional data given that the variant strain is much more prevalent in London and the South East. Around 60% of new cases in London are now the new variant. So does London have a higher or lower death rate than other parts of the country? One way to get a rough idea is to compare the number of deaths in each region with the ONS data on the prevalence of COVID-19 two weeks earlier – two weeks being the typical delay between a positive test and death, where that occurs.

The results?

For every 1,000 cases in London in the week to November 25th, there were approximately 3.5 deaths in the week to December 11th. The corresponding figure for the South East was 5.3. In the North West, where the new variant was a lot less common, the figure was 3.9. It was 3.5 for the North East, 4.3 for Yorkshire and the Humber, 3.5 for the North East, 6.2 for the West Midlands and 5.1 for the East Midlands.

In other words, no sign of a swelling infection fatality rate. Just swelling

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Nb

The Prof says that the PCR test DOES NOT DETECT INFECTION VIRUS.

So you need an infection and symptoms first for detection before there is a useful PCR test which only then can aid diagnosis by confirming the presence of the given virus. This has always been so and as confirmed by Kary Mullis before his death in August 2019.

It can then be concluded that the entire test and trace without infectious symptoms are a total waste of time.

Editor [briefingsforfreedom.co.uk](http://www.briefingsforfreedom.co.uk) with thanks to Lockdown Sceptics and the USA professor of virology Vincent Racaniello. Vincent Racaniello, who is Professor of Virology at Columbia University and co-author of the textbook Principles of Virology, explains in a [new video](#) why he is not worried about the new virus variant.

Editor

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