



Subject: DoctorVida® pocket - COVID-19 can detect the Omicron Variant

Date: 06/12/2021

Dear Customer

With the announcement of the Omicron Variant (B.1.1.529) as a variant of concern by the World Health Organization, STAB VIDA examined the novel sequences submitted on the Global Initiative on Sharing All Influenza Data (GISAID, <https://www.gisaid.org>) database for potential impact on the N- and E- genes that are targeted by the DoctorVida® pocket - COVID-19 molecular assay.

Based on the analysis of 314 genome sequences of Omicron variant samples available in GISAID database on 2nd December 2021, STAB VIDA bioinformatics team determined that this variant can still be detected by DoctorVida® pocket COVID-19 assay. The analysis determined that the primer binding regions still have 100% and 99.4% sequence homology for N- and E- gene targets, respectively, and should be always reactive to at least one (1) of the primer sets of DoctorVida® pocket - COVID-19 assay.

Furthermore, STAB VIDA successfully detected the Omicron variant, with DoctorVida® pocket - COVID-19 assay, using a clinical sample provided and sequenced by the National Health Institute Doutor Ricardo Jorge (INSA) - the National Reference Laboratory and National Health Observatory for COVID-19 in Portugal. Therefore, based on these findings we can confirm that the new SARS-CoV-2's Omicron variant do not affect the accuracy of DoctorVida® pocket - COVID-19 assay to detect the virus SARS-CoV-2.

Kind regards,

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