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## Unveiling the latest Covid-19 variant: Symptoms & insights

### **Description**

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Covid-19 variant XEC may spread more easily than previous variants

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A new covid-19 variant known as XEC is currently spreading worldwide, particularly in Europe. Initial evidence suggests that it might be more transmissible than earlier variants, but health professionals reassure that existing vaccines are effective against it. Here is what we have gathered about XEC so far.

## Understanding the XEC Variant

XEC results from the fusion of two other SARS-CoV-2 variants, KP.3.3, and KS.1.1. Originating from the same lineage as omicron, XEC shares similar characteristics such as enhanced transmissibility and milder symptoms.

## Discovery and Prevalence

XEC first emerged in August from covid-19 samples collected in Berlin. With over 600 reported cases across 27 countries, predominantly in Europe, XEC constitutes a growing percentage of sequenced samples. Detected in countries like the UK, Germany, and the US, XEC is steadily gaining presence globally.

## Effects and Vaccine Efficacy

Symptoms caused by XEC mirror those of other covid-19 variants, and current vaccines are anticipated to provide protection against it. While uncertainties remain about its level of transmissibility, experts recommend vigilance and adherence to preventive measures.

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## Vocabulary List:

1. **Transmissible** /træn'smɪsəbl/ (adjective): Capable of being spread from one person to another.
2. **Emerged** /ɪ'mɜːrdʒd/ (verb): Came into view or became apparent.
3. **Predominantly** /prɪ'daːmɪnəntli/ (adverb): Mainly; for the most part.
4. **Symptoms** /'sɪmptəmz/ (noun): Physical or mental features indicating a condition or disease.
5. **Vigilance** /'vɪdʒɪləns/ (noun): The action or state of keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties.
6. **Characteristics** /,kærɪktə'rɪstɪks/ (noun): Features or qualities that typically identify or distinguish something.

## Comprehension Questions

## Multiple Choice

1. What are the two SARS-CoV-2 variants that form the XEC variant?

- Option: KP.3.3 and KS.1.1
- Option: Omicron and Delta
- Option: Alpha and Beta
- Option: Gamma and Epsilon

2. Where did the XEC variant first emerge?

- Option: Berlin
- Option: London
- Option: Paris
- Option: New York

3. How many countries have reported cases of the XEC variant?

- Option: 27
- Option: 15
- Option: 40
- Option: 10

4. Which region has predominantly reported XEC cases?

- Option: Europe
- Option: Asia
- Option: North America
- Option: Africa

5. What do experts recommend regarding XEC and preventive measures?

- Option: Vigilance and adherence to preventive measures
- Option: No need for preventive measures
- Option: Stop vaccination efforts
- Option: Ignore the variant

6. Which other covid-19 variant is in the same lineage as XEC?

- Option: Omicron
- Option: Delta
- Option: Alpha
- Option: Beta

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## Answer

**Multiple Choice:** 1. KP.3.3 and KS.1.1 2. Berlin 3. 27 4. Europe 5. Vigilance and adherence to preventive measures 6. Omicron

## Vocabulary quizzes

**Multiple Choice ( Select the Correct answer for each question. )**

1. Which of the following is a chemical messenger that transmits signals across a synapse?

- Option: Perception
- Option: Anticipation
- Option: Neurotransmitter
- Option: Innovative

2. The scientific methods used in the investigation of crimes are related to which field of study?

- Option: Insights
- Option: Transmissible
- Option: Forensic
- Option: Emerged

3. What term best describes the act of being watchful or alert for possible danger or difficulties?

- Option: Diverse
- Option: Vigilance
- Option: Characteristics
- Option: Efficacy

4. Which activity involves an astronaut working outside a spacecraft in space?

- Option: Milestone
- Option: Spacewalk
- Option: Capsule
- Option: Pioneering

5. What term refers to the process of introducing new ideas or methods?

- Option: Tailored
- Option: Management
- Option: Milestone
- Option: Innovation

6. Which term best describes a range of different things or having variety?

- Option: Underutilized
- Option: Contraindications
- Option: Diverse
- Option: Insights

7. What term describes having a strong reason to act or accomplish something?

- Option: Exhibitors
- Option: Transmissible
- Option: Motivated
- Option: Emerged

8. Which term refers to the ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills?

- Option: Predominantly
- Option: Symptoms
- Option: Vigilance
- Option: Intelligence

9. Which term signifies the action of creating or preparing something carefully?

- Option: Spacewalk
- Option: Capsule
- Option: Formulated
- Option: Pioneering

10. What term denotes something that is important or meaningful?

- Option: Suit
- Option: Innovation
- Option: Significant
- Option: Tailored

**Gap-Fill ( Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

11. The students waited with \_\_\_\_\_ for the exam results to be announced.

12. Efficient \_\_\_\_\_ is essential for the success of any organization.

13. The virus is highly \_\_\_\_\_ and can be easily spread among populations.

14. A new leadership style has \_\_\_\_\_ in the company following the appointment of the new CEO.

15. Fever, cough and fatigue are common \_\_\_\_\_ of the flu.

16. The study aimed to determine the \_\_\_\_\_ of the new drug in treating the condition.

17. The training facility is currently \_\_\_\_\_ and not operating at full capacity.

18. The marketing campaign was \_\_\_\_\_ to appeal to the younger demographic.

19. The breed of dog has specific \_\_\_\_\_ that make it well-suited for hunting.

20. The company is known for its \_\_\_\_\_ work in developing cutting-edge technology.

**Matching Sentences ( Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list. )**

21. The research study provided valuable \_\_\_\_\_ into consumer behavior.

22. The astronaut climbed into the space before the mission.

23. The completion of the project marked a significant \_\_\_\_\_ for the team.

24. The company prides itself on its approach to product development.

25. The astronaut put on the space before the spacewalk.

26. The evidence presented in court helped solve the crime.

27. The team a detailed plan for the project implementation.

28. Maintaining constant \_\_\_\_\_ is crucial in high-security areas.

29. His exceptional \_\_\_\_\_ allowed him to solve complex problems effectively.

30. The resources were \_\_\_\_\_ and could have been better utilized for the project.

**Answer**

**Multiple Choice:** 1. Neurotransmitter 2. Forensic 3. Vigilance 4. Spacewalk 5. Innovation 6. Diverse 7. Motivated 8. Intelligence 9. Formulated 10. Significant

**Gap-Fill:** 11. Anticipation 12. Management 13. Transmissible 14. Emerged 15. Symptoms 16. Efficacy 17. Underutilized 18. Tailored 19. Characteristics 20. Pioneering

**Matching sentence:** 1. Insights 2. Capsule 3. Milestone 4. Innovative 5. Suit 6. Forensic 7. Formulated 8. Vigilance



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9. Intelligence 10. Underutilized

## CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL4

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