



Unveiling XEC: Symptoms of the Latest Covid-19 Strain

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A new covid-19 variant called XEC has been found to spread more easily than previous variants. Experts suggest that the available vaccines are effective against this new variant. Let's explore what we know about XEC so far.

What is the new covid-19 XEC variant?

XEC is a result of two other SARS-CoV-2 variants, KP.3.3 and KS.1.1, combining in the same host. It is a descendant of the omicron variant, which is known for being highly transmissible.

When and where was XEC identified?

XEC was first detected in August in Berlin, with earlier cases appearing in Italy as far back as May.

How many cases of XEC are there?

Over 600 cases have been reported across 27 countries, including the UK, Germany, Canada, and the US. The variant is prevalent in Europe.

What are the symptoms of XEC?

XEC presents similar symptoms to other covid-19 variants, such as fever, sore throat, cough, and muscle aches.

Is XEC more transmissible?

It is uncertain if XEC is more transmissible, but there are indications that it could spread more easily.

Do covid-19 vaccines still work against XEC?

Current vaccines are expected to provide protection against XEC. Booster shots are recommended for additional safety.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Variant** /'vɛəriənt/ (noun): A form or version of something that differs in some respect from other forms of the same thing.
2. **Transmissible** /trænz'mɪsəbl/ (adjective): Capable of being transmitted or spread from one person or organism to another.
3. **Prevalent** /'prɛvələnt/ (adjective): Widespread in a particular area or at a particular time.
4. **Effectiveness** /ɪ'fɛktɪvnəs/ (noun): The degree to which something is successful in producing a desired result.
5. **Combining** /kəm'baɪnɪŋ/ (verb): To unite or merge two or more distinct entities or elements.



6. **Symptoms** /'sɪmptəms/ (noun): Physical or mental features that indicate a condition or disease.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. What two SARS-CoV-2 variants combined to create the XEC variant?

- Option: KP.3.3 and KT.1.1
- Option: PT.2.4 and KS.1.1
- Option: KP.3.3 and KS.1.1
- Option: OM.5.2 and KT.1.1

2. Where was the XEC variant first detected?

- Option: Paris
- Option: Rome
- Option: Berlin
- Option: London

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

- Option: 15
- Option: 27
- Option: 35
- Option: 40

4. What symptoms does XEC share with other covid-19 variants?

- Option: Headache and dizziness
- Option: Fever and sore throat
- Option: Nausea and back pain
- Option: Breathing difficulties and chest pain

5. Are current vaccines believed to be effective against the XEC variant?

- Option: No, they are not effective
- Option: Only partially effective
- Option: Yes, they are expected to be effective
- Option: Unknown at this time

6. What is the recommendation regarding booster shots for protection against XEC?



- Option: Not necessary
- Option: Only for certain age groups
- Option: Recommended for additional safety
- Option: Should be avoided

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. KP.3.3 and KS.1.1 2. Berlin 3. 27 4. Fever and sore throat 5. Yes, they are expected to be effective 6. Recommended for additional safety

Vocabulary quizzes

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

1. Which term refers to a journey undertaken for a specific purpose?
 - Option: Expedition
 - Option: Analysis
 - Option: Desperate
 - Option: Survivor
2. What word describes the ability to be passed from one person to another?
 - Option: Variant
 - Option: Transmissible
 - Option: Prevalent
 - Option: Effectiveness
3. Which term means to give special importance or prominence to something?
 - Option: Combining
 - Option: Emphasized
 - Option: Symptoms
 - Option: Assistance
4. What refers to suggestions or advice on what should be done?
 - Option: Itinerary
 - Option: Recommendations
 - Option: Tailored
 - Option: Revolutionizing
5. Which term describes being influenced or harmed by something?
 - Option: Affected



- Option: Variant
- Option: Submerged
- Option: Behavior

6. What is the term for a period when a service is not available or operational?

- Option: Outage
- Option: Disruption
- Option: Verify
- Option: Submerged

7. Which term relates to the study of genes and heredity?

- Option: Genetic
- Option: Survivor
- Option: Desperate
- Option: Expedition

8. What term refers to measures taken to protect against potential harm or damage?

- Option: Continuity
- Option: Safeguards
- Option: Affected
- Option: Variant

9. Which term refers to physical or mental features that indicate a condition exists?

- Option: Tailored
- Option: Revolutionizing
- Option: Symptoms
- Option: Assistance

10. What gas is essential for most living organisms?

- Option: Repellent
- Option: Extract
- Option: Scuba
- Option: Oxygen

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

11. _____ different ingredients can lead to unexpected flavors and textures.

12. Technology is constantly _____ the way we live and work.

13. The new invention has the potential to _____ the industry.



14. Have you planned the complete _____ for the trip?
15. Do you need any _____ with your project?
16. The company offers _____ solutions to meet individual needs.
17. The ancient city remains _____ under the sea.
18. Please _____ the accuracy of the data before proceeding.
19. In some regions malaria is _____ during the rainy season.
20. The sudden power _____ caused chaos in the city.

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

21. The _____ of the plane crash was found after days in the wilderness.
22. The new _____ of the virus is more contagious than the original strain.
23. The disease is highly _____ through close contact with infected individuals.
24. The insect effectively keeps mosquitoes away.
25. The detailed _____ revealed interesting patterns in the data.
26. The code determines many of our inherited traits.
27. The team tested the _____ of the new treatment on a small sample.
28. The scientific _____ aimed to discover rare plant species in the rainforest.
29. The committee made several _____ for improving workplace safety.
30. The child's disruptive _____ improved after counseling sessions.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Expedition 2. Transmissible 3. Emphasized 4. Recommendations 5. Affected 6. Outage 7. Genetic 8. Safeguards 9. Symptoms 10. Oxygen

Gap-Fill: 11. Combining 12. Revolutionizing 13. Revolutionize 14. Itinerary 15. Assistance 16. Tailored 17. Submerged



18. Verify 19. Prevalent 20. Disruption

Matching sentence: 1. Survivor 2. Variant 3. Transmissible 4. Repellent 5. Analysis 6. Genetic 7. Effectiveness
8. Expedition 9. Recommendations 10. Behavior

CATEGORY

1. Sci/Tech - LEVEL3

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