



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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Stanislaus County, CA — The first known case of the B.1.1.7 variant has been detected in Stanislaus County. This is the variant that was first identified in the UK and has now been detected in 70 countries. It is more infectious and possibly causes more severe illness and death. This is also the variant that CDC had predicted would become the predominant strain in the US by the end of March.

“The detection of the B.1.1.7 variant in Stanislaus County is a sobering reminder that this pandemic is not over,” said Dr. Julie Vaishampayan, Stanislaus County Public Health Officer. “The best way to prevent this variant from spreading, and prevent more variants from developing, is to stop the virus from circulating in the community. It is vital that everyone, even people that have been vaccinated, continue to follow recommendations that prevent the spread of disease, which include testing, masking, distancing, and getting the vaccine when it is your turn.”

Studies suggest that all three vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, Johnson & Johnson) are effective and provide strong protection against the B.1.1.7 variant. Eligibility for the vaccine has recently expanded to the list below:

- Healthcare Workers
- Long-term Care Residents
- People aged 65 and over
- Education and Childcare
- Food and Agriculture
- Emergency Services
- Public Transit
- Janitorial/Custodial
- Qualifying Medical Conditions & Disabilities

Please visit schsa.org/coronavirus/vaccine/ to view the options to get vaccinated, or call (209)558-7535 for more information.

Stanislaus County Public Health continues to work closely with all our partners in the Emergency Operations Center to address the COVID-19 pandemic through guidance provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the California Department of Public Health, and other partners. For more information on the cases in Stanislaus County, please visit schsa.org/coronavirus

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