

Review of: "Emerging Omicron Subvariants EG.5 and BA.2.86: Implications for COVID-19 Immunity and Surveillance"

Hana Baba¹

¹ Institut Pasteur du Maroc

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Your analysis covers key aspects of the ongoing situation with COVID-19, including the spread, prevalence, genomic characteristics, and clinical manifestations of various variants. To enhance clarity, flow, and professionalism, consider focusing on the following points:

1. The text is quite dense and lengthy in some parts. Consider breaking long paragraphs into smaller ones to enhance readability.
2. Avoid Redundancy: Some points are repeated or implied multiple times. Streamline the content to eliminate redundancy. Similarly, refer to mutations consistently (e.g., "F456L mutation" rather than "FLip mutation, F456L switches the positions of the two amino acids on the spike protein labeled F and L").
3. Use Transitions: Ensure smooth transitions between sections and ideas to maintain a logical flow. For example, move from discussing vaccine efficacy to public health measures more seamlessly.
4. Reconsider the quality of the figures.
5. There are a few grammatical inconsistencies and minor errors that need correction:

- For example, "Furthermore, Epidemiological data from sources such as the World Health Organization (WHO) was evaluated..." should be "Furthermore, epidemiological data from sources such as the World Health Organization (WHO) were evaluated..." ; "Moreover, Analysis of genomic sequences of EG.5 and BA.2.86 obtained from databases ..." should be "Moreover, analysis of genomic sequences of EG.5 and BA.2.86 obtained from databases ..."

- Define technical terms and abbreviations (e.g., Nabs, RBD) when they first appear to aid readers who may not be specialists. For example, the term CDC here : "According to the **CDC**, this variant has been reported in 11 countries, including Israel, Denmark, the UK, the US..." at page 5 and "According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), EG.5 is now the predominant strain in the United States, accounting for 24.5% of SARS-CoV-2 cases..." at page 7.

- Ensure all references are cited correctly and that the citation style is consistent throughout the article. For example, in the sentence "which is representative of the Omicron variant's debut in late 2021 Lili, W., et al., (2023)" should be "which is representative of the Omicron variant's debut in late 2021 (Lili, W., et al., 2023). Also, "One explanation is that Omicron has more than 30 mutations, many of which are thought to increase the risk of infection, on the spike protein of the virus,

which connects to human cells Katella, K., (2023)” should be “One explanation is that Omicron has more than 30 mutations, many of which are thought to increase the risk of infection, on the spike protein of the virus, which connects to human cells (Katella, K., 2023)”.

- I couldn't find some references at the “Reference” section (2021 (Lili, W., et al., 2023) ; Katella, K., 2023;

-Review the publication's year of this reference: “Yadav, S., Zaman, K., Bashyal, P., Bhatta, R., Bhandari, S., Mohanty, A., & Sah, R. (9900). Newer emerging SARSCOV2 variant: Omicron EG.5. Annals of Medicine and Surgery, 10.1097/MS1099.0000000000001386. doi: 10.1097/ms9.0000000000001386”

- Some spellings should be revised. For example, the word challenges “Challanges, Response Strategies and Adaptations” at page 10.

These changes should help to make your analysis more coherent, impactful, and accessible to a broad audience.