

The British strain of the virus is dominant in the community of Cyprus - Detection of the English strain in 111 samples

The English strain of the SARS-CoV-2 virus is dominant in the community of Cyprus, according to the results of the specialized sequencing tests carried out through the ECDC program.

According to the results of laboratory tests, **the British strain was detected in all 111 samples**. The specific samples refer to the period of March, and are positive samples detected **in all Districts**.

The new results are characteristic and explain, to a large extent, the upward trend of recent days in terms of the number of cases, since that it has been scientifically proven that **the British strain is over 50% more contagious**.

As recommended by the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, to limit the transmissibility caused by the mutation requires that states focus their efforts on the **early detection of positive cases through increased testing and contact tracing**.

Taking into account that the prevention of the spread caused by the mutations can be achieved through the **vaccination of the population**, citizens need to proceed to vaccination - on the basis of the Vaccination Plan - **with the available approved vaccines, as soon as possible**.

09.04.2021