
Peer-Review Report

Peer Review of “Emergence of the First Strains of SARS-CoV-2 Lineage B.1.1.7 in Romania: Genomic Analysis”

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Related Articles:

Preprint (medRxiv): <https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2021.01.29.21250643v1>

Preprint (JMIR Preprints): <https://preprints.jmir.org/preprint/28049>

Authors' Response to Peer-Review Reports: <https://med.jmirx.org/2021/3/e23393/>

Published Article: <https://med.jmirx.org/2021/3/e28049/>

(*JMIRx Med* 2021;2(3):e32296) doi: [10.2196/32296](https://doi.org/10.2196/32296)

KEYWORDS

infectious disease; COVID-19; strain; virus; Romania; transmission; spread; mutation; impact; case study; genome; sequencing; genetics; epidemiology; variant; virology; lineage

This is a peer-review report submitted for the paper “Emergence of the First Strains of SARS-CoV-2 Lineage B.1.1.7 in Romania: Genomic Analysis.”

Round 1 Review

General Comments

This paper [1] reports the identification and characterization of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7 variant (the English variant) in North-East Romania and a synopsis of the circulation of this

variant in Romania. The manuscript is timely, straightforward, and professionally crafted, and the results are of interest for the characterization of SARS-CoV-2 strains. Such routine surveys are necessary to trace the emergence of new variants of interest and are scarce in Eastern Europe.

Minor Comments

The manuscript needs some revision of English. It is generally well prepared, but there are several instances in which it could benefit from a professional revision.

Conflicts of Interest

None declared.

Reference

1. Lobiuc A, Dimian M, Sturdza O, Filip R, Covasa M. Emergence of the First Strains of SARS-CoV-2 Lineage B.1.1.7 in Romania: Genomic Analysis. *JMIRx Med* 2021 Aug;2(3):e28049 [FREE Full text] [doi: [10.2196/28049](https://doi.org/10.2196/28049)]
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