



Yamhill County
Health and Human Services
Public Health

ALERT

**COPY AND DISTRIBUTE TO
Health Care Providers**

To: Health Care Providers in Yamhill County

From: Yamhill County Public Health

Date: **12/3/21**

Regarding: *Omicron Variant*

Phone number for follow-up: **(503) 434-7483**

Colleagues,

Yesterday the CDC sent a [HAN](#) alert regarding the Omicron variant and its emergence in the U.S. Included are a number of topics pertaining to state and local public health, laboratories, and the public. Please note the following:

- On November 30, 2021, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention designated the emerging variant B.1.1.529 (Omicron) a variant of concern. The Omicron variant causes an S-gene target failure (SGTF) on the Thermo Fisher TaqPath and Applied DNA Sciences Linea assays. Any positive specimens displaying an SGTF is suspect for the Omicron variant. **OSPHL requests that all laboratories using these assays submit all SGTFs for sequencing.** An updated version of the OSPHL sequencing request document is located here: <https://sharesystems.dhsoha.state.or.us/DHSForms/Served/le3654.pdf>.
- CDC will notify OHA if any Oregon residents return from any of the countries currently included in the Federal travel restriction. OHA will share this information with LPHAs by secure e-mail; active monitoring is not required.
- Layered mitigation strategies effective against Delta and other previous variants remain the best strategies to prevent spread of Omicron. These strategies include vaccination, masking, improving ventilation, distancing, handwashing, and testing to slow SARS-CoV-2 transmission.

This message was shared with Tribal and Local public health authorities, as well as other public health and healthcare partners of OHA.

Unless otherwise noted, feel free to share this HAN Notification with:

- Others within your organization.
- Professionals within your health, preparedness, and response affiliations.

Oregon 24/7 disease reporting: 971-673-1111