



Waukesha County

Department of Health and Human Services

Contact: Nicole Armendariz
Phone: 262-548-7902

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Tuesday, February 9, 2021

STATEMENT FROM WAUKESHA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION REGARDING COVID-19 VARIANT STRAIN

(WAUKESHA) – Waukesha County Health Officer Benjamin Jones made the following statement after Wisconsin DHS identified a second case of variant strain B.1.1.7 of SARS-CoV-2 in Wisconsin:

“Waukesha County is aware that there are variants of COVID-19 in the state. Although there have been two cases detected in Wisconsin, the Department of Health Services (DHS) has stated that there are likely more examples of this variant throughout the state.

“The case that was detected in Waukesha County was identified after testing positive for COVID-19. That individual was successfully contact traced and instructed to isolate. We are working in cooperation with DHS to gather additional details to facilitate statewide monitoring.

“Ongoing research supports that the vaccines available in the United States appear to be effective against this variant. Our vaccination efforts, combined with continued vigilance from the public, are vital to stopping the spread of COVID-19 and its variants. First and foremost, everyone must continue to be vigilant and take mitigation efforts such as wearing masks, avoiding gatherings outside of their household, and washing their hands. Everyone who is eligible to receive the vaccine should do so when they are able, and they should continue to follow measures to stop the spread of the virus even when they are vaccinated.

“Waukesha County will closely monitor this situation while continuing to mitigate the pandemic through our approach of vaccination, contact tracing, testing, educational partnerships, and data collection.”

More information about Waukesha County’s efforts to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic are available at www.waukeshacounty.gov/covid19.

###

