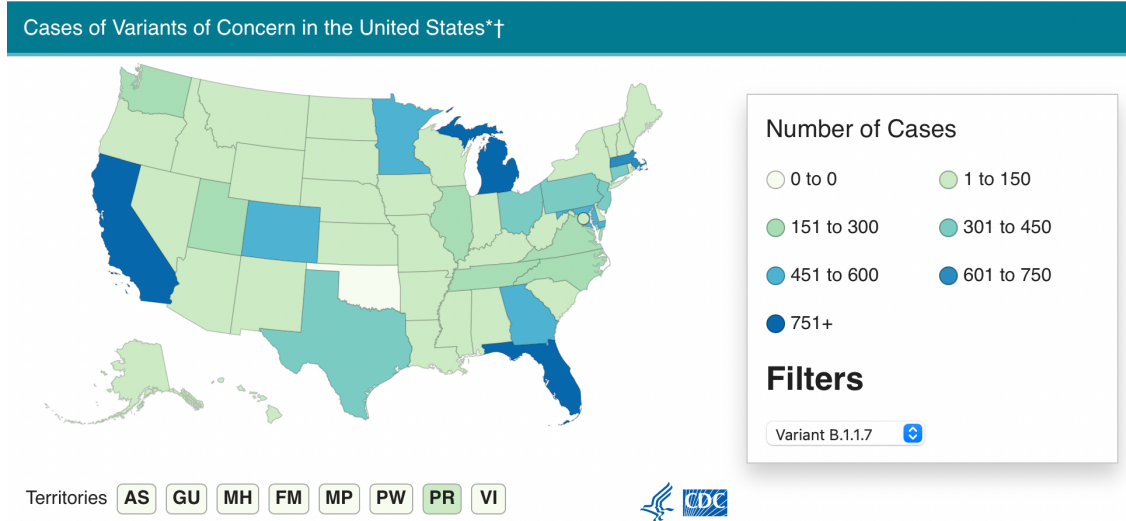




# ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

## OSH ALERT 2021-04 [01 April 2021]

### COVID-19 Mutations



On Tuesday of this week, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) published an update to its webpage exclusively devoted to addressing the progress of COVID-19 virus mutations.

We provide a link to that guidance here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/transmission/variant-cases.html>

In sum, the mutation getting the most traction here in the U.S. is the **B.1.1.7** variant (also known as the U.K. variant). This variant is distinguished by its increased transmissibility (up to 50 time more easily spread) and by its tendency to inflict more substantial sickness (its mortality).

Currently (**See** map above), the States of **Florida, California** and **Michigan** have been most impacted. Given the extremely high transmissibility of this variant, CDC expects a substantial increase in these numbers, as well as a significant spread to other States.

As a consequence, the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee renews its strong recommendation to mask up, to make every attempt to stay socially distant, to practice circumspect hand washing, to disinfect equipment and workspaces often and to seek vaccination (at your own [informed] option; with the concurrence of your own health care provider).

**Got a question about this particular subject? Write to the JSC at: [blueoceana@optonline.net](mailto:blueoceana@optonline.net)**

### Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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