

infected minkfarms in a zone around these.

Statens Serum Institut has so far identified seven unique mink mutations/changes in the spike protein of the SARS-CoV-2 variants in mink, these variants have also been found in humans living in the affected areas. We have tested a variant with four simultaneous changes in the spike protein (Amino acid changes: 69del, Y453F, I692V, M1229I). This variant has been found in five minkfarms and also in humans in the surrounding community. A complete GISAID upload of all Danish Sars-CoV-2 sequences of human origin is planned for the end of week 45.

We have cultured this virus from a human patient and evaluated whether it was sensitive to neutralizing antibodies (antisera) from a collection of sera from convalescent COVID-19 patients. We found that this virus showed less sensitivity (resistance) for neutralizing antibodies from persons with previous COVID-19 infection. These results are preliminary and are in the process of being confirmed in an independent repeat experiment. However, the finding suggests that mink-specific mutations potentially can influence virus' sensitivity to protective antibodies after an infection with a non-mink variant of SARS-CoV-2. This may also pose a threat in terms of effectiveness of spike protein directed COVID-19 vaccines on specific mink variants of SARS-CoV2.

Met vriendelijke groet,

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Sent: woensdag 4 november 2020 13:10

Subject: EWRS: New Other information notification added by Denmark

Early Warning and Response System

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From	Denmark
Alert Type	Other information
Category	Biological origin: Communicable diseases

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