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Lilly's statement on the testing process of COVID-19 antibody therapies against the Omicron variant of concern

Due to the substitutions contained within the spike protein of the Omicron variant of concern, it appears that bamlanivimab with etesevimab is likely to experience reduced neutralization activity. Lilly is actively working to understand neutralization activity of our therapies on the Omicron variant of concern, and to quantify this potential impact.

Lilly continually monitors the COVID-19 environment and is assessing the neutralization activity of all of our antibody therapies, including bamlanivimab with etesevimab, along with our investigational antibody bebtelovimab. Respective evaluations against the Omicron variant of concern are ongoing and we will report on preliminary findings as soon as possible.

It is important to note that our data show bamlanivimab and etesevimab together retains its neutralization effects against the Delta variant, which currently makes up more than 95% of cases in the U.S. today.

It has always been our view that additional monoclonal antibodies may be needed to address the evolution of the virus, including emerging variants that can differ by country or even by state. In fact, this is what drove our work on bamlanivimab and etesevimab together.