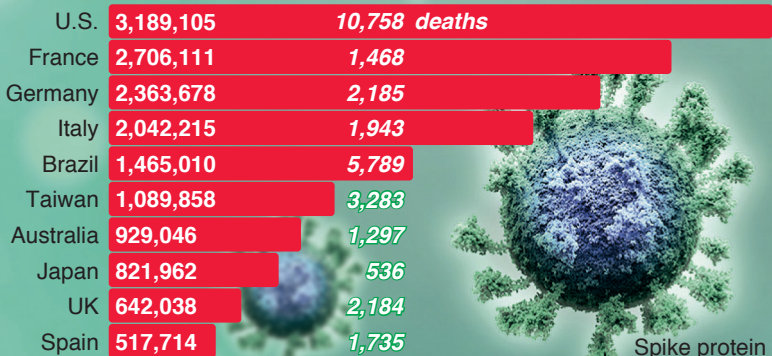


New Covid variant could cause surge

Virologists are worried by the emergence of a quickly mutating Omicron variant BA.2.75, known as Centaurus, already spreading faster than the highly transmissible BA.5, which now makes up over 50% of cases

28-DAY CASES AND DEATHS (Jun 16-Jul 14)



VARIANTS OF CONCERN

2020

Detected

0

Genetic mutations



Each variant has mutations in spike protein with which it binds to receptor on human cell

L425R mutation enabled rapid spread of Delta and Omicron



F486V – harder to bind to human cell, but more difficult for immune system to detect threat



Detected May 2022: Large number of extra mutations