

Whole genomic sequencing of the SARS-CoV-2 variants in Sri Lanka

06.08.2021

94 samples were sequenced from the last week of July 2021. The results of these 94 samples is as follows:

B.1.617.2 (delta): 56/94 were delta. Identified from Colombo (CMC, Dehiwala, Borelesgamuwa, Angoda, Kesbewa, Kolonnawa, Nugegoda, Maharagama, Panadura, Kahathuduwa, Piliyandala), Kadawatha, Bandaragama, Biyagama, Ragama, Ampara, Karapitiya, Galle, Matara, Ratnapura, Vavuniya, Point Pedro, Kurunegala, Kandy, Ratnapura, Kalurata, Ahungalla

B.1.1.7 (alpha): 36/94 were alpha. Identified from Ampara, Badulla, Batticaloa, Colombo (Kaduwela, Maharagama, Malabe), Bogambara prison, Jaffna, Karapitiya, Kalutara, Mannar, Matale, Moneregala, Nuwaraeliya, Kilinochchi, Kurunegala, Passara, Polonnaruwa, Ratnapura, Trincomalee

B.1.351 (beta): 1/94 identified from Mannar

Distribution of alpha and delta variant in Sri Lanka by 4th week of July

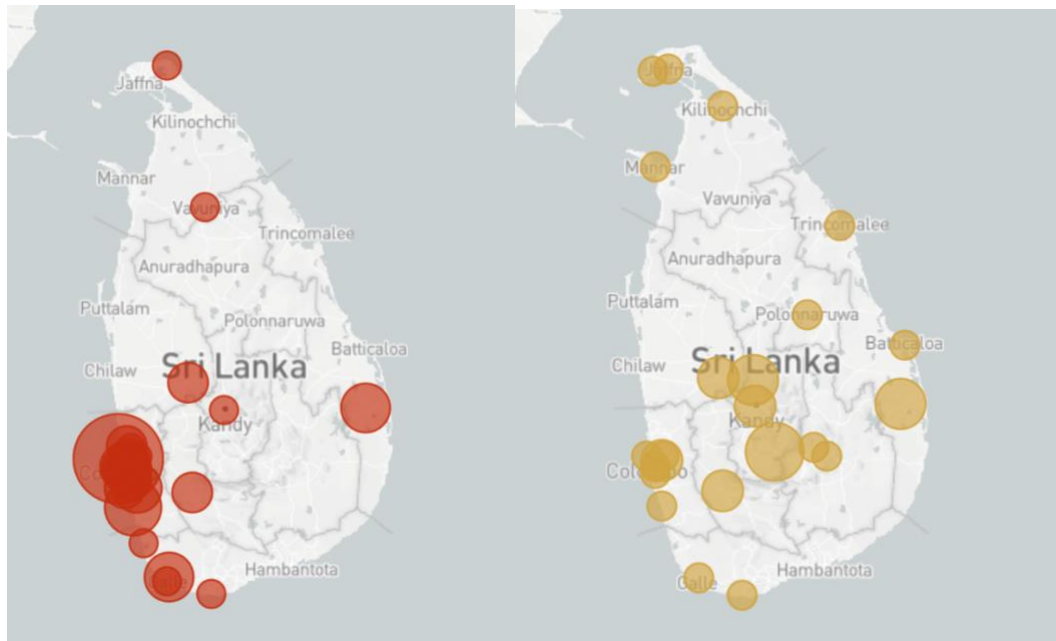


Figure 1: Distribution of delta (red, left) and alpha (yellow, right) by the 4th week of July.

Interpretation: while delta was the predominant variant in the Western province and Galle district, it was not seen in the Central province and many other areas in Sri Lanka. Beta was seen (just 1) during this sequencing run and the last run in the Northern province.

WGS data from the Allergy Immunology and Cell Biology Unit of the Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Variants of concern seen in Sri Lanka (since March 2020 up to now)

Total number of viruses sequenced by us up to now=818

- B.1.1.7 (alpha): 408
- B.1.617.2 (delta): 117
- B.351.1: 6

Locations of viruses sequenced in Sri Lanka (from the beginning)

While the vast majority of viruses have been sequenced in the Colombo district, sequencing has been carried out from many areas from all over Sri Lanka.

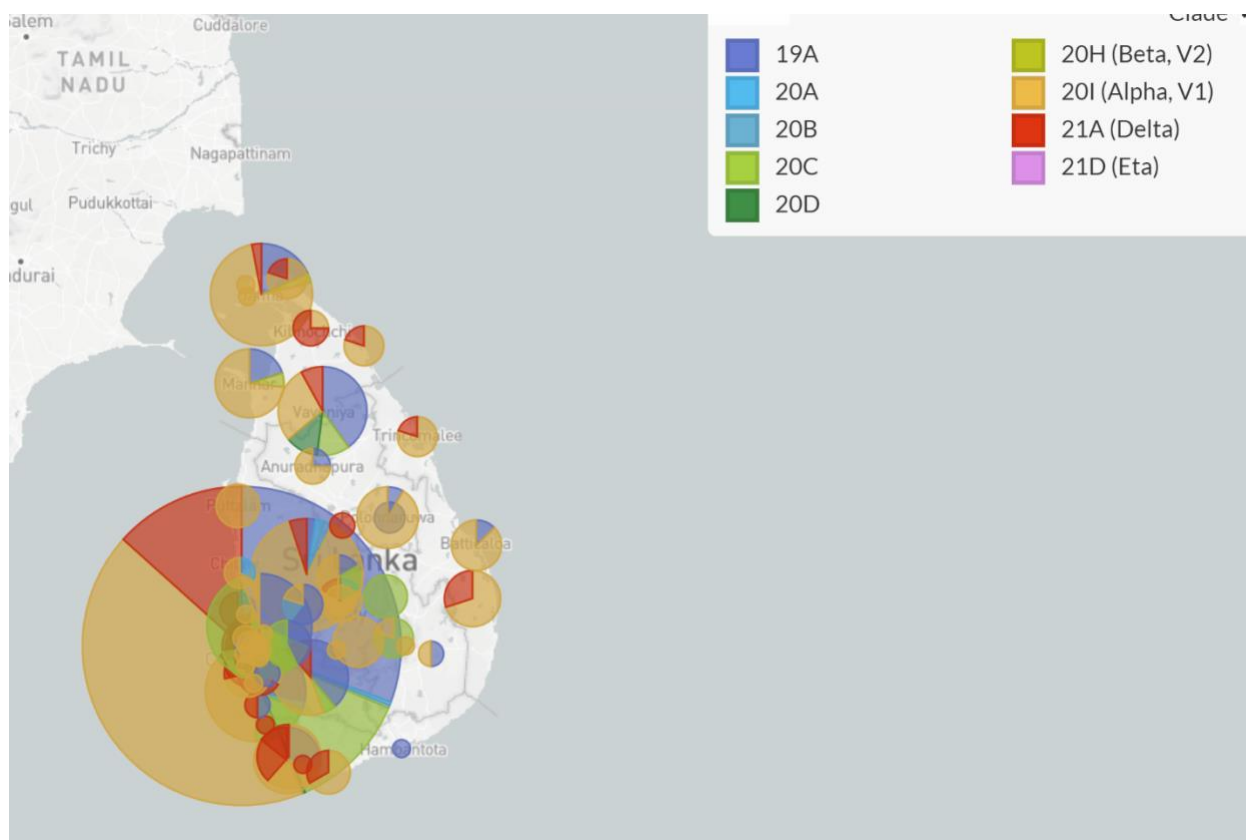


Figure 1: Locations of delta (left) and alpha (right) shown.

Other variants identified within Sri Lanka: B.1.411: Sri Lankan variant, B.1.1.25, B.1.258, B.1.428, B.4, B.4.7, B.1.1.365, B.1.525, B.1, B.1.1

WGS data from the Allergy Immunology and Cell Biology Unit of the Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

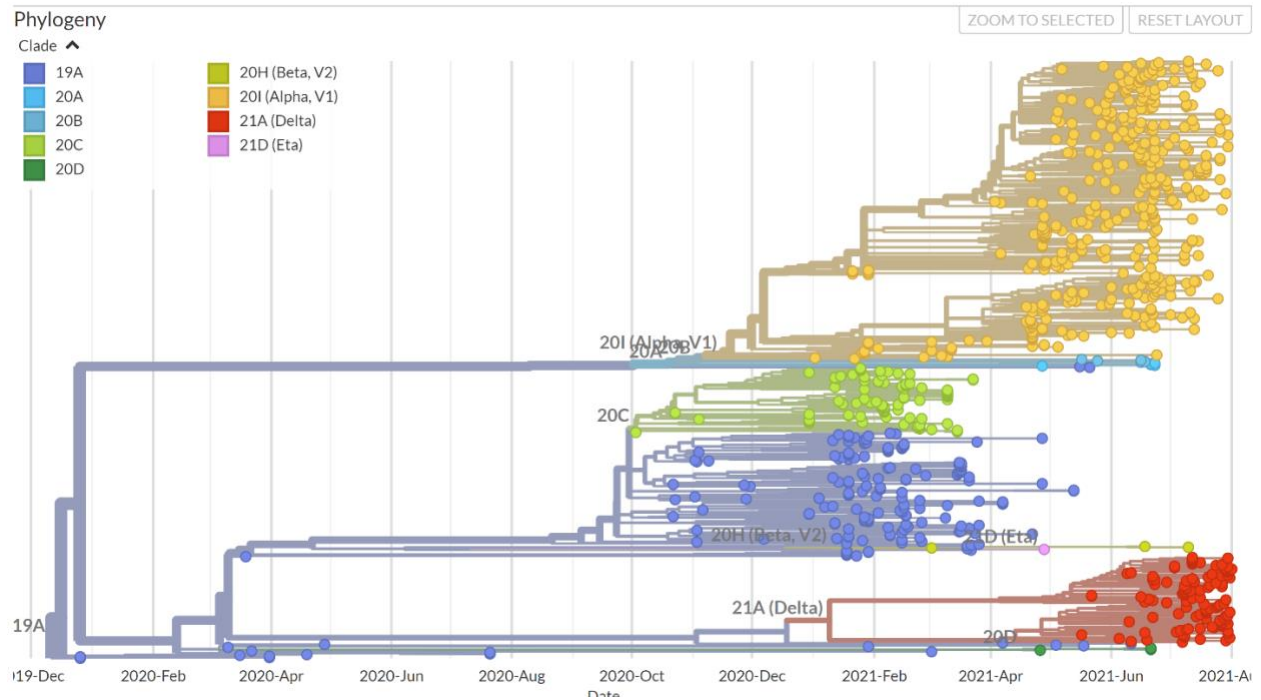


Figure 3: Phylogenetic tree of all SARS-CoV-2 sequences identified in Sri Lanka so far (n=818).

WGS data from the Allergy Immunology and Cell Biology Unit of the Department of Immunology and Molecular Medicine, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.