

# *WHO says Omicron risk very high*

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**France, UK, Italy, Greece, and Portugal all hit record daily infections, with France reporting almost 180,000 cases.**

Geneva, December 30 (RHC)-- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there is evidence that the Omicron variant has a growth advantage over the Delta variant with a doubling time of two to three days, and rapid increase in the incidence of cases is seen in a number of countries including the UK and the United States.

The risk posed by the Omicron variant is still “very high”, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday, after COVID-19 case numbers shot up by 11 percent globally last week.

Omicron is behind the rapid virus spikes in many countries, including those where it has already overtaken the previously-dominant Delta variant, the WHO said in its COVID-19 weekly epidemiological

update.

The news comes as several European countries, including France, UK, Italy, Greece, and Portugal all hit record daily infections. France reported almost 180,000 cases in a 24-hour period on Tuesday.

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