

## Press release – COVID-19 vaccines: MEPs to debate concerns about virus mutation



On Monday, Members of the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) Committee will question representatives from the [European Medicines Agency](#) (EMA), the [European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control](#) (ECDC) and the [World Health Organisation](#) (WHO) on the efficacy of vaccines against mutations of the COVID-19 virus.

The invited experts are:

- Dr Marco Cavaleri, Head of biological health threats and vaccines strategy and Chair of the COVID-19 Emergency Task Force, EMA
- Dr Bruno Ciancio, Head of surveillance, ECDC
- Dr Katherine O'Brien, Department of Immunisation, Vaccines and Biologicals Director, WHO.

During the same meeting, Commission Deputy Director-General for Health Pierre Delsaux will present MEPs with the Commission's communication on the [HERA Incubator](#), a project designed to monitor variants, exchange data and cooperate on adapting vaccines.

**When:** Monday 15 March 2021, 13:30 – 15:45

**Where:** European Parliament in Brussels, room Paul Henri Spaak 1A002 and videoconference

You can watch the debate live [here](#).

**Background**

Parliament organised several debates in different committees as well as at plenary sessions on various aspects of the COVID-19 vaccination strategy. Most recently, [MEPs discussed ways to increase the roll-out of vaccines](#) with CEOs of pharmaceutical companies. The public health committee will evaluate the growing threat of COVID-19 variants and the EU plans to tackle this challenge.