List of guidance from ECDC and recent publications on COVID-19

COVID-19 Digest
07 April 2022

ECDC Outputs

Recent publications

Joint statement from ECDC and EMA on the administration of a fourth dose of mRNA vaccines 06 Apr Read more »

Information to guide individual health assessment of refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine – Considerations for healthcare workers UNHCR, ECDC, IOM, WHO/Europe 06 Apr Read more »

Guidance for the prevention and control of COVID-19 in temporary reception centres in the context of the large numbers of people fleeing Ukraine Technical report – 18 Mar Read more »

Analysis of COVID-19 contact tracing data from Ireland, Italy and Spain – 2020 data Technical report – 15 Mar Read more »

Interim analysis of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against Severe Acute Respiratory Infection due to laboratory-confirmed SARS/CoV/2 among individuals aged 30 years and older, ECDC multi-country study – second update Technical report – 14 Mar Read more »

Operational public health considerations for the prevention and control of infectious diseases in the context of Russia’s aggression towards Ukraine 08 Mar Read more »

Data collection on COVID-19 outbreaks in closed settings: long-term care facilities, version 2.1 Technical report – 18 Feb Read more »

Considerations for the use of antibody tests for SARS-CoV-2, first update Technical report – 10 Feb Read more »

COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness in adolescents aged 12-17 years and interim public health considerations for administration of a booster dose Technical report – 08 Feb Read more »

Considerations for the use of face masks in the community in the context of the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant of concern Technical report – 07 Feb Read more »

Situation updates on COVID-19

COVID-19 situation update for the EU/EEA: Includes an update on the number of cases and deaths and geographical distribution of 14-day notification rates for the EU/EEA. Read more »

COVID-19 situation update worldwide: Includes an update on the number of cases and deaths and geographical distribution of 14-day notification rates worldwide. Read more »

COVID-19 country overview: Provides an overview of the evolving epidemiological situation for the EU/EEA (including case/death notification rates, testing rates, test positivity, hospital and ICU occupancy/capacity per country, vaccination uptake at EU/EEA and country level). Read more »

Situation dashboard: Interactive map with the latest available data on COVID-19 (worldwide). Read more »

Vaccine tracker: Real time data on national vaccine doses distribution and vaccine update within EU/EEA countries.
Maps in support of the Council Recommendation on a coordinated approach to the restriction of free movement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the EU/EEA. These maps are published every Thursday based on a number of different indicators. Read more »

Response Measures Database of ECDC and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission is a regularly updated archive of non-pharmaceutical interventions introduced by 30 countries in the EU/EEA. Read more »

Updates on SARS-CoV-2 variants

SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern: Overview of the different variants that are currently being considered of concern and of interest as assessed by ECDC. Read more »

Variants of concern. The ECDC country overview includes an own section on variants of concern. It includes e.g. a map of sequencing volume, variant data table and weekly variant distribution by country. Read more »

Dashboard on SARS-CoV-2 variants. This dashboard provides an overview of the proportion of variants of concern and variants of interest in EU/EEA Member States together with sequencing volumes and complements the ECDC country overview report. Read more »

Download data on COVID-19

Much of ECDC's data can be downloaded from its website. This for instance includes, but is not limited to, reported number of cases and deaths, 14-day case notification rates, ICU and hospital admissions/occupancy, testing rates/positivity, vaccination data and response measures implemented in EU/EEA countries. Link to downloadable data »

Other ECDC Outputs

ECDC website on COVID-19 — Read more »

ECDC surveillance definitions for COVID-19. Read more »

Find the latest evidence on:

- Coronaviruses
- Risk factors and risk groups
- Transmission of COVID-19
- COVID-19 infection
- Clinical characteristics of COVID-19
- Diagnostic testing and screening for SARS-CoV-2
- Immune responses and immunity to SARS-CoV-2
- Treatment and pharmaceutical prophylaxis
- COVID-19 vaccines

Prevention and control of COVID-19 — how to protect yourself, risk groups, COVID-19 vaccination, patient and case management. Read more »

Q & A on COVID-19 aimed at public and lay audience – Questions and answers. Read more »

Infographics, Videos, Webinars and more

Infographics and leaflets about COVID-19 – Infographics, leaflets and posters on COVID-19. Read more »

Videos on COVID-19 – What do we know about the COVID-19. Read more »

ECDC Virtual Academy (EVA) – COVID-19 Micro learning for public health professionals. Read more »
Recent peer-reviewed publications

Disclaimer: In view of the large number of COVID-19 related publications, this list is compiled based on a rapid review of titles and abstracts and subjective selection of peer-reviewed articles and does not include an additional qualitative assessment or critical appraisal of the evidence by ECDC.

2. Enhancing epidemiological surveillance of the emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant using spike gene target failure data, England, 15 November to 31 December 2021 Euro Surveill Read more
3. Defining the risk of SARS-CoV-2 variants on immune protection Nature Read more
4. Potential factors influencing COVID-19 vaccine acceptance and hesitancy: A systematic review PloS one Read more
5. Estimated COVID-19 Cases and Hospitalizations Averted by Case Investigation and Contact Tracing in the US JAMA Netw Open Read more
6. Effectiveness of CoronaVac, ChAdOx1 nCoV-19, BNT162b2, and Ad26.COV2.S among individuals with previous SARS-CoV-2 infection in Brazil: a test-negative, case-control study Lancet Infect Dis Read more
7. Incidence Rates and Clinical Outcomes of SARS-CoV-2 Infection With the Omicron and Delta Variants in Children Younger Than 5 Years in the US JAMA Pediatr Read more
8. Risk of SARS-CoV-2 reinfection and COVID-19 hospitalisation in individuals with natural and hybrid immunity: a retrospective, total population cohort study in Sweden Lancet Infect Dis Read more
9. Impact of the Omicron variant on SARS-CoV-2 reinfections in France, March 2021 to February 2022 Euro surveillance Read more
10. Safety, tolerability and viral kinetics during SARS-CoV-2 human challenge in young adults Nature Med Read more
11. Association of COVID-19 Vaccination During Early Pregnancy With Risk of Congenital Fetal Anomalies JAMA Pediatr Read more
12. Meteorological factors and non-pharmaceutical interventions explain local differences in the spread of SARS-CoV-2 in Austria PLoS Comput Biol Read more
13. Screening and vaccination against COVID-19 to minimise school closure: a modelling study Lancet Infect Dis Read more
14. Vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 infection among vulnerable and marginalised population groups in Denmark: A nationwide population-based study Lancet Reg Health Eur Read more
15. Association Between SARS-CoV-2 Viral Load in Wastewater and Reported Cases, Hospitalizations, and Vaccinations in Milan, March 2020 to November 2021 JAMA Read more

Additional Resources

Information from European Institutions, International Organisations and Centres for Disease Control and Prevention

European Union. Re-open EU: interactive tool with country information for travel and transportation Read more

European Commission. Coronavirus response. Read more

European Parliament. The EU’s response to the coronavirus. Read more

EU Healthy Gateways: Published guidance and reports for COVID-19

European Agency for Safety and Health (OSHA). COVID-19: Resources for the workplace: EU guidance, telework, resources from EU and international organisations. Read more
European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). COVID-19. Read more »


European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addition (EMCDDA). COVID-19 and drugs. Read more »

Health Systems Response Monitor: COVID-19 Health System Response Monitor designed in response to the COVID-19 outbreak to collect and organize up-to-date information on how countries are responding to the crisis

World Health Organization (WHO). Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. Read more »

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO): Novel Coronavirus. Read more »

African Centres of Disease Control and Prevention. Read more »

Public Health Agency of Canada. Read more »

Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Read more »

Israel Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Ministry of Health. Read more »

Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency. Read more »

Ministry of Health of Mexico. Read more »

UK Health Security Agency. Read more »

US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Read more »

COVID-19 information pages of EU/EEA Member States

Austria » Germany » Malta »
Belgium » Greece » Netherlands »
Bulgaria » Hungary » Norway »
Croatia » Iceland » Poland »
Cyprus » Ireland » Portugal »
Czechia » Italy » Romania »
Denmark » Latvia » Slovakia »
Estonia » Liechtenstein » Slovenia »
Finland » Lithuania » Spain »
France » Luxembourg » Sweden »

Living Evidence Summaries

COAP: COVID-19 Open Access Project from the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM). This database is updated daily with published articles from Pubmed and EMBASE and with preprints from medRxiv and bioRxiv.

COVID-END McMaster Health Forum: living evidence syntheses on a variety of topics including efficacy and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines in the presence of variants of concern (VOCs).

EPPI Centre: COVID-19: a living systematic map of the evidence. Up-to-date map of the current evidence that are partitioned into broad domains for easy exploration.

MAGIC project (MAGIC Evidence Ecosystem Foundation, theBMJ, WHO): Drug treatments for COVID-19 living systematic review and network meta-analysis and a living WHO guideline on drugs for COVID-19

**PregCOV-19LSR** by the University of Birmingham. Series of living systematic reviews (LSR) involving pregnant and postnatal women at risk, suspected, and diagnosed to have COVID-19 according to recommended methods. [Read more »]

**WHO:** [Living WHO guideline on drugs for COVID-19](https://www.bmj.com/content/375/bmj.n1288) (published by the BMJ)

## Science Updates

**Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine CEBM:** [Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service](https://www.cebmed.ox.ac.uk/covid-19-evidence-service). Rapid reviews of primary care questions relating to COVID-19.

**Cochrane:** [Cochrane Reviews](https://www.cochrane.org) and related content from the Cochrane Library relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**COVID Reference International:** Every day the "Top 10 scientific COVID-19 papers of the day" are presented. Also provides multiple other useful links to literature. [Read more »]

**Evidence Aid:** [Evidence Collection](https://evidenceaid.net/collection/coronavirus) on Coronavirus (COVID-19). This evidence collection contains plain-language summaries of high-quality research which are available in English, and translated into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Chinese (simplified and traditional).


**LitCovid:** [curated literature hub](https://www.litcovid.org) for tracking up-to-date scientific information about COVID-19. It is the most comprehensive resource on the subject, providing a central access a large number of relevant articles in PubMed.

**US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:** [COVID-19 Science Updates](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science-updates.html) providing brief summaries of new COVID-19-related studies on many topics, including epidemiology, clinical treatment and management, laboratory science, and modeling. The summaries are released every Tuesday and Friday.

**VA-ESP COVID-19 Reviews:** [U.S. Veterans’ Affairs (VA) Evidence Synthesis Program](https://www.va-esp.org/covid-19-reviews) - Inventory of living systematic reviews and ‘rapid reviews’, with a flag for living reviews and for reviews meeting minimum quality standards.
