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

COVID-19 Digest
09 February 2023

ECDC Outputs

Recent publications

Considerations for infection prevention and control practices in relation to respiratory viral infections in healthcare settings Guidance – 06 Feb Read more »

Protocol for a COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness study using health data registries Protocol – 30 Jan Read more »

Core protocol for ECDC studies of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against hospitalisation with Severe Acute Respiratory Infection, laboratory-confirmed with SARS-CoV-2 or with seasonal influenza - Version 2.0 Protocol – 30 Jan Read more »

Threat Assessment Brief: Implications for the EU/EEA of the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron XBB.1.5 sub-lineage Risk assessment – 13 Jan Read more »

Pilot study outline for targeted genomic surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 in travellers in response to a worsening or unknown epidemiological situation in a third country 13 Jan Read more »

Guidelines in response to the worsening of the epidemiological situation - Addendum to the Aviation Health Safety Protocol 11 Jan Read more »

Situation updates on COVID-19

Joint ECDC-WHO Regional Office for Europe Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Bulletin 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 »

Vaccine tracker: Real time data on national vaccine doses distribution and vaccine update within EU/EEA countries. 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 »

Data on SARS-CoV-2 variants in the EU/EEA. The downloadable data file contains information about the volume of COVID-19 sequencing, the number and percentage distribution of variants of concern (VOC) by week and country. 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

Note that the following pages are no longer updated. A COVID-19 fact sheet will be published in the first quarter of 2023:

- Coronaviruses
- Risk factors and risk groups
- COVID-19 infection
- SARS-CoV-2 in children
- 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.

1. Household Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 and Long-term Immunity in Children: A Prospective Study in Northern Spain Pediatr Infect Dis J Read more
2. Reduction of the risk of severe COVID-19 due to Omicron compared to Delta variant in Italy (November 2021 - February 2022) Int J Infect Dis Read more
3. Assessment of COVID-19 as the Underlying Cause of Death Among Children and Young People Aged 0 to 19 Years in the US JAMA Netw Open Read more
6. Minimising school disruption under high incidence conditions due to the Omicron variant in France, Switzerland, Italy, in January 2022 Euro Surveill Read more
7. Risk reduction of hospitalisation and severe disease in vaccinated COVID-19 cases during the SARS-CoV-2 variant Omicron BA.1-predominant period, Navarre, Spain, January to March 2022 Euro Surveill Read more »

8. Epidemiology of healthcare-associated SARS-CoV-2 outbreaks in Germany between March 2020 and May 2022 J Hosp Infect Read more »

9. Maternal mRNA covid-19 vaccination during pregnancy and delta or omicron infection or hospital admission in infants: test negative design study BMJ Read more »

10. Comparative Effectiveness of COVID-19 Vaccines in Preventing Infections and Disease Progression from SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA.5 and BA.2, Portugal Emerg Infect Dis 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 Addiction (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, 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. *(NOTE: last update Feb 2022, no longer updated)*

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

WHO living guidelines on therapeutics, drugs to prevent COVID-19 and clinical management of COVID-19 patients


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 » *(NOTE: last update April 2021)*

Science Updates


Cochrane: Cochrane Reviews 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 » *(NOTE: last update Jan 2022, no longer updated)*

Evidence Aid: Evidence Collection 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).

Health Information and Quality Authority Ireland: COVID-19 Publications: Clinical evidence summaries and rapid reviews on various topics.

LitCovid: curated literature hub 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 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. *(NOTE: last update Dec 2021, no longer updated)*
VA-ESP COVID-19 Reviews: U.S. Veterans’ Affairs (VA) Evidence Synthesis Program - Inventory of living systematic reviews and ‘rapid reviews’, with a flag for living reviews and for reviews meeting minimum quality standards

Wolters Kluwer: Clinical effectiveness COVID-19 Resources Available to All. View a categorized collection of all UpToDate COVID-19 content including clinical topics, algorithms, patient education and society guideline links.