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

Weekly Digest
11 March 2021

ECDC Outputs

Recent publications

Methods for the detection and identification of SARS-CoV-2 variants Technical Report – 3 March Read more »

Behavioural Insights research to support the response to COVID-19: a survey of implementation in the EU/EEA. Technical Report – 17 February Read more »

Detection and characterisation capability and capacity for SARS-CoV-2 variants within the EU/EEA. Technical Report – 16 February Read more »


Risk assessment: SARS-CoV-2 - increased circulation of variants of concern and vaccine rollout in the EU/EEA, 14th update. Risk Assessment – 14 February Read more »


All ECDC publications on scientific advice on coronavirus are published here.

Translated guidance and infographics on COVID-19. Available in 26 languages. Read more »

Situation updates on COVID-19

Weekly 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 »

Weekly 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 »

Weekly 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). Read more »

Weekly surveillance report on COVID-19: Includes information on severity and risk groups most affected for the EU/EEA, as well as information on The European Surveillance System (TESSy) data quality and descriptions about national surveillance systems. Read more »

Vaccine roll-out overview report: Provides an overview of the progress in the roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines in adults (aged 18 years and above) across EU/EEA Member States, incl. vaccine doses distributed and administered. Read more »

Situation dashboard: Interactive map with the latest available data on COVID-19 (worldwide). The dashboard now also includes a vaccine tracker.

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
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 and response measures implemented in EU/EEA countries. [Link to downloadable data]

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]
Webinars and Podcasts on COVID-19 –Webinars and discussions on COVID-19. [Read more]
ECDC Virtual Academy (EVA) – COVID-19 Micro learning for public health professionals. [Read more]
Online micro learning activities on non-pharmaceutical countermeasures in relation to COVID-19. Event E-learning course. 20 Feb 2020 - 31 Dec 2020. [Read more]

Other ECDC Outputs
ECDC website on COVID-19 ECDC – [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
- Vaccines and treatment of COVID-19

Surveillance definitions for COVID-19. High risk exposure/close contact, transmission status, death due to COVID-19. [Read more]
ECDC case definition for COVID-19. [Read more]
Testing strategies for SARS-CoV-2 - Patients requiring diagnostic testing. [Read more]
Preparedness for COVID-19 – Publications and guidance for preparedness planning. [Read more]
Prevention and control of COVID-19 – how to protect yourself, monitoring of response activities, patient and case management. [Read more]
Laboratory support for COVID-19 in the EU/EEA – Testing for SARS-CoV-2 virus, shortages, types and storage of specimens, specimen shipping etc. [Read more]
Q & A on COVID-19 – Questions and answers. [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 a qualitative assessment or critical appraisal of the evidence.

1. Risk of mortality in patients infected with SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern 202012/1: matched cohort study [BMJ] [Read more]
2. Excess mortality for care home residents during the first 23 weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic in England: a national cohort study [BMC Med] [Read more]
3. Epidemiology and clinical features of COVID-19 outbreaks in aged care facilities: A systematic review and meta-analysis [EClinicalMedicine] [Read more]
4. Cesarean Section or Vaginal Delivery to Prevent Possible Vertical Transmission From a Pregnant Mother Confirmed With COVID-19 to a Neonate: A Systematic Review Front Med (Lausanne) Read more »
5. Risk and predictive factors of prolonged viral RNA shedding in upper respiratory specimens in a large cohort of COVID-19 patients admitted in an Italian Reference Hospital Int J Infect Dis Read more »
6. Infection sustained by lineage B.1.1.7 of SARS-CoV-2 is characterised by longer persistence and higher viral RNA loads in nasopharyngeal swabs Int J Infect Dis Read more »
7. Infectivity of deceased COVID-19 patients Int J Legal Med Read more »
8. Main Differences Between the First and Second Waves of COVID-19 in Madrid, Spain Int J Infect Dis Read more »
9. Serological evidence of human infection with SARS-CoV-2: a systematic review and meta-analysis Lancet Global Health Read more »
10. Antibody Resistance of SARS-CoV-2 Variants B.1.351 and B.1.1.7 Nature Read more »
11. SARS-CoV-2 within-host diversity and transmission Science Read more »
12. Relationships between Viral Load and the Clinical Course of COVID-19 Viruses Read more »

Additional Resources

European Union. Re-open EU: interactive tool with country information for travel and transportation Read more »
European Commission. Coronavirus response. Read more »
EU Healthy Gateways: Published guidance and reports for COVID-19 Read more »
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). Research Platform. Read more »
European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). COVID-19 measures. Read more »
World Health Organization (WHO). Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. 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 Read more »
Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO): Novel Coronavirus. 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](https://ispm.unibe.ch/coap) 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.

**EPPI Centre:** [COVID-19](https://epipcentreforum.org): a living systematic map of the evidence. Up-to-date map of the current evidence that are partitioned into broad domains for easy exploration.


**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 »](https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/projects/clinical-research/pregcov-19-living-systematic-reviews.page)

**theBMJ:** [Drug treatments for covid-19](https://www.bmj.com/content/374/bmj.m1359): living systematic review and network meta-analysis

Science Updates

**Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine CEBM:** [Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service](https://www.cebm.net/). Rapid reviews of primary care questions relating to COVID-19.

**Cochrane:** [Cochrane Reviews](https://www.cochranelibrary.com) 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 »](https://www.covidreference.com)

**COVID-AMR:** [Peer-reviewed literature](https://www.covidamr.org) on secondary infections, antibiotic chemotherapy and AMR in the context of COVID-19.

**Evidence Aid:** [Evidence Collection](https://evidenceaid.net) 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:** [COVID-19 Publications](https://www.cmdh.ch/en/covid19). Clinical evidence summaries and rapid reviews on various different topics.

**LitCovid:** [curated literature hub](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/litsearch) 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. The articles are updated daily and are further categorized by different research topics and geographic locations for improved access.

**US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:** [COVID-19 Science Updates](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/clinical-trials-researcher/sciencetools.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.gov/ESPR/nps/epsp.cfm) - 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](https://www.wolterskluwer.com). View a categorized collection of all UpToDate COVID-19 content including clinical topics, algorithms, patient education and society guideline links.