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

Weekly Digest
18 February 2021

📚 ECDC Outputs

Recent publications

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 »


Overview of the implementation of COVID-19 vaccination strategies and vaccine deployment plans in the EU/EEA. Technical Report – 1 February Read more »

Integrated COVID-19 response in the vaccination era. Technical Report – 1 February Read more »

Monitoring COVID-19 vaccination progress across Europe. News Story – 1 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. Read more »

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 »

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 »


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


ECDC case definition for COVID-19. Read more »

Testing strategies for COVID-19 - Patients requiring diagnostic testing. Read more »

Preparedness for COVID-19 – Publications and guidance for preparedness planning. Read more »

Prevention and control – 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. Evaluation of patients with respiratory infections during the first pandemic wave in Germany: characteristics of COVID-19 versus non-COVID-19 patients BMC Infect Dis Read more »
3. Novel SARS-CoV-2 Variant Identified in Travelers from Brazil to Japan Emerg Infect Dis Read more »
4. Second versus first wave of COVID-19 deaths: shifts in age distribution and in nursing home fatalities Environ Res Read more »
5. SARS-CoV-2 re-infection risk in Austria Eur J Clin Invest Read more »
7. COVID-19 mortality in the UK Biobank cohort: revisiting and evaluating risk factors Eur J Epidemiol Read more »
8. Efficacy of surgical masks or cloth masks in the prevention of viral transmission: Systematic review, meta-analysis, and proposal for future trial J Evid Based Med Read more »
9. Saliva is a reliable and accessible source for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 Int J Infect Dis Read more »
10. Association of α1-Blocker Receipt With 30-Day Mortality and Risk of Intensive Care Unit Admission Among Adults Hospitalized With Influenza or Pneumonia in Denmark JAMA Netw Open Read more »
11. S-variant SARS-CoV-2 lineage B1.1.7 is associated with significantly higher viral loads in samples tested by ThermoFisher TaqPath RT-qPCR J Infect Dis Read
12. Structural genetics of circulating variants affecting the SARS-CoV-2 spike/human ACE2 complex. J Biomol Struct Dyn Read more »
13. SARS-CoV-2 antibody prevalence in England following the first peak of the pandemic Nat Commun Read more »
14. Evidence for SARS-CoV-2 related coronaviruses circulating in bats and pangolins in Southeast Asia Nat Commun Read more »
15. Lasting antibody and T cell responses to SARS-CoV-2 in COVID-19 patients three months after infection Nat Commun Read more »
16. Aerosol emission of adolescents voices during speaking, singing and shouting PLoS One Read more »
17. Performance of SARS-CoV-2 serology tests: Are they good enough? PLoS One 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
Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO): Novel Coronavirus. Read more »

COVID-19 information pages of EU/EEA Member States

Austria »
Belgium »
Bulgaria »
Croatia »
Cyprus »
Czechia »
Germany »
Greece »
Hungary »
Iceland »
Ireland »
Italy »
Malta »
Netherlands »
Norway »
Poland »
Portugal »
Romania »
Living Evidence Summaries

**COAP:** [COVID-19 Open Access Project](https://coap.ispm.com) 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://eppi.io): 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://pregcov-19lsr.ispm.com)

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

Science Updates

**Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine CEBM:** [Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service](https://cebm.ox.ac.uk). 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://covid-ref.com)

**COVID-AMR:** [Peer-reviewed literature](https://covid-amr.com) 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: Clinical evidence summaries and rapid reviews on various different topics](https://www.hiqa.ie).

**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. 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 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.](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-updates.html)

**VA-ESP COVID-19 Reviews:** [U.S. Veterans’ Affairs (VA) Evidence Synthesis Program](https://www.va.gov/research我が国) - 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 Recourses Available to All. View a categorized collection of all UpToDate COVID-19 content including clinical topics, algorithms, patient education and society guideline links.