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

COVID-19 Digest
26 January 2023

📖 ECDC Outputs

Recent publications (no new publications since the last digest)

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 »

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Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI) Reporting Protocol Version 3.6  15 Dec  Read more »

Antiviral resistance monitoring capability and capacity for SARS-CoV-2 and influenza within the EU/EEA  Technical report — 15 Dec  Read more »

ECDC expert consultation on the implementation and evaluation of non-pharmaceutical interventions  Technical report — 14 Dec  Read more »

Integrated respiratory virus surveillance RESPISEVERE and RESPISURV data sets Reporting Protocol Version 1.2  13 Dec  Read more »

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) data Reporting Protocol Version 6.2  13 Dec  Read more »

Intensified circulation of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and associated hospital burden in the EU/EEA  Risk assessment — 12 Dec  Read more »

Joint EC, WHO and ECDC statement: Influenza season epidemic kicks off early in Europe as concerns over RSV rise and COVID-19 is still a threat  01 Dec  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. Link to downloadable data

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. Economic Burden of the 2020 COVID-19 Hospitalizations in Spain JAMA Netw Open Read more »
2. Perspective: Lessons from COVID-19 of countries in the European region in light of findings from the health system response monitor Front Public Health Read more »
3. Systematic review of outbreaks of COVID-19 within households in the European region when the child is the index case BMJ Paediatr Open Read more »
4. COVID-19 mortality attenuated during widespread Omicron transmission, Denmark, 2020 to 2022 Euro Surveill Read more »
5. Adverse events following first and second dose COVID-19 vaccination in England, October 2020 to September 2021: a national vaccine surveillance platform self-controlled case series study Euro Surveill Read more »
6. Low SARS-CoV-2 Cq values in healthcare workers with symptomatic COVID-19 infections, regardless of symptom severity, The Netherlands, January to August 2022 Euro Surveill Read more »
10. Cost and cost-effectiveness of four different SARS-CoV-2 active surveillance strategies: evidence from a randomised control trial in Germany Eur J Health Econ Read more »
11. Protective effectiveness of previous SARS-CoV-2 infection and hybrid immunity against the omicron variant and severe disease: a systematic review and meta-regression Lancet Infect Dis Read more »
12. Digital contact tracing during the COVID-19 pandemic in France: Associated factors and reasons for non-use Int J Med Inform Read more »
13. Vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 in pregnancy during the Omicron wave: the prospective cohort study of the Italian obstetric surveillance system Clin Microbiol Infect Read more »
14. Characterising patterns of COVID-19 and long COVID symptoms: evidence from nine UK longitudinal studies Eur J Epidemiol 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. 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). 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, 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 | Belgium | Bulgaria | Croatia | Cyprus | Czechia | Denmark | Estonia | Finland | France | Germany | Greece | Hungary | Iceland | Ireland | Italy | Latvia | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Malta | Netherlands | Norway | Poland | Portugal | Romania | Slovakia | Slovenia | Spain | Sweden |

Living Evidence Summaries

**COAP:** [COVID-19 Open Access Project](https://coap.ispm.ch/) from the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine ([ISPM](https://ispm.ch)). 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](https://www.epi-centre.eu/) 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


**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. *(NOTE: last update April 2021)*

Science Updates

**Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine CEBM:** [Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service](https://cebm.jr2.ox.ac.uk/COVID19.htm). 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 (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.

**World Health Organization:** [COVID-19 Global literature on coronavirus disease](#). Literature database.