



COVID-19

Health Evidence Summary No.11

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This daily COVID-19 Health Evidence Summary is to signpost DFID and other UK government departments to the latest relevant evidence and discourse on COVID-19 to inform and support their response. It is a result of 3 hours of work and is not intended to be a comprehensive summary of evidence.

Tuberculosis and COVID-19: COVID-19 considerations for TB care

WHO | 4 April 2020 | Information note

https://www.who.int/tb/COVID_19considerations_tuberculosis_services.pdf

This note is intended to assist national TB programmes and health personnel to maintain continuity of essential services for people affected with TB during the COVID-19 pandemic. Includes information on risk of COVID-19 infection, illness and death in people with TB; protection of staff working in TB laboratories, healthcare facilities and community health workers; protection of people seeking TB care; testing for TB and COVID-19; and TB treatment in those with COVID-19.

Masks and handwashing vs. physical distancing: do we really have evidence-based answers for policymakers in resource-limited settings?

Saleh, A. & Cash R.A. | Center for Global Development | 3 April 2020

<https://www.cgdev.org/blog/masks-handwashing-vs-physical-distancing-do-we-really-have-evidence-based-answers>

Leaders from LMICs are increasingly sceptical of mimicking policies that may have worked in China, South Korea, Germany and elsewhere because of **radical differences** in demography; endemic conditions that affect the immune system (malnutrition, anaemia, malaria, HIV/AIDS and TB) that are likely to increase the severity of COVID-19; health system capacity which is often weak, already stretched experiencing the double burden of disease and has extremely low critical care capacity; and cultural context where social cohesion and social gatherings are greatly important. The strategic approach should instead focus on containment and aggressive preventive measures engaging with the community, health leadership, and involvement of youth and religious leaders. Epidemiological models need to take into account the possibility that physical distancing policies could fuel widespread community transmission rather than contain COVID-19 as has been seen as urban migrants flee cities to avoid paying rent and be with their family during the crisis; that physical distancing policies will be difficult to follow in overcrowded informal slums which lack

sufficient access to water and sanitation facilities. Consideration should also be given to emergency provision of food and cash to accompany forced loss of income. More emphasis can be placed on handwashing and good respiratory hygiene e.g. masks can be produced at scale.

Disability considerations during the COVID-19 outbreak

WHO | 26 March 2020 | Recommended actions

<https://www.who.int/who-documents-detail/disability-considerations-during-the-covid-19-outbreak>

During the COVID-19 outbreak people with disability must be able to access the healthcare services and public health information that they require. A number of challenges are listed that may put people with disability at greater risk of contracting COVID-19. Actions are proposed for the following groups – people with disability and their household; governments; healthcare workers; disability service providers; and the community.

Shared responsibility, global solidarity: responding to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19

UN | March 2020 | Report

<https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/2020-03/SG-Report-Socio-Economic-Impact-of-Covid19.pdf>

A new UN report calls for shared responsibility and global solidarity on COVID-19 and for action in three specific areas (1) suppressing the transmission of the virus to control the pandemic; (2) safeguarding people's lives and their livelihoods; and (3) learning from this human crisis to build back better.

COVID-19: A Gender Lens Protecting sexual and reproductive health and rights, and promoting gender equality

UNFPA | March 2020 | Technical Brief

https://www.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/resource-pdf/COVID-19_A_Gender_Lens_Guidance_Note.pdf

Includes key messages including how women and men are impacted differently and recommendations.

Three UK national COVID-19 treatment trials

Platform Randomised trial of INterventions against COVID-19 In older peoPLE (PRINCIPLE) Trial

University of Oxford | Clinical trial

<https://www.phctrials.ox.ac.uk/principle-trial>

This trial aims to evaluate if selected treatments in addition to usual care compared to usual care alone given to those at higher risk of becoming more ill when they are infected with COVID-19 can

help reduce the need for hospitalisation and the length of stay required, help people recover quicker and with fewer complications. Enrolment is through GP surgeries registered in the trial and is open to those aged 50 to 64 and have a listed underlying condition and to anyone aged 65 or over both groups with symptoms experienced for fewer than eight days and likely to be caused by a COVID-19 infection.

Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy (RECOVERY) clinical trial

University of Oxford | Clinical trial

<https://www.recoverytrial.net>

This clinical trial will invite every adult patient hospitalised into the NHS with confirmed COVID-19 to enter the trial and if they accept be allocated to standard care or standard care plus one of the new therapeutic options (lopinavir-ritonavir (commonly used to treat HIV), low-dose dexamethasone (a type of steroid, which is used in a range of conditions typically to reduce inflammation), hydroxychloroquine (related to an anti-malarial drug). The trial has currently prioritised expert recommended drugs but has the flexibility to add new recommendations or new drugs as they become available. Almost 1000 patients from 132 different hospitals have been already recruited in 15 days.

Randomised, Embedded, Multifactorial, Adaptive Platform Trial for Community-Acquired Pneumonia (REMAP-CAP)

Imperial College London | Clinical trial

<https://www.remapcap.org/coronavirus>

Part of 50 sites across the world, this trial will evaluate treatment of patients with severe CAP resulting from coronavirus. Currently these interventions are prolonged macrolide therapy (as a modulator of immune function); alternative corticosteroid strategies; lopinavir/ritonavir antiviral therapy; and immune modulation therapy.

Tracking COVID-19 cases

Global

WHO COVID-19 daily situation reports

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>

Johns Hopkins University COVID-19 dashboard in real time

<https://gisanddata.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6>

Vaccine Centre, LSHTM

https://vac-lshtm.shinyapps.io/ncov_tracker/

This site complements the WHO and Johns Hopkins University COVID-19 dashboards by including the timeline functions, the ability to overlay past outbreaks, and an emphasis on normalised counts (per 100,000 individuals).

Live data tracker: sex-disaggregated COVID-19 data from the 25 most-affected countries

<http://globalhealth5050.org/covid19>

Africa

Coronavirus in Africa Tracker: How many covid-19 cases & where?

<https://africanarguments.org/2020/03/23/coronavirus-in-africa-tracker-how-many-cases-and-where-latest/>

UK

COVID-19: PHE track coronavirus cases in the UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-track-coronavirus-cases>

UK case tracing infographic

<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/f94c3c90da5b4e9f9a0b19484dd4bb14>

Online learning

COVID-19 Diagnostics and Testing

FIND, LSHTM & ASLM | FutureLearn course | Starts 20 April 2020 | 3 weeks | 3 hours weekly study | Free

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/covid-19-diagnostics-and-testing>

This course is designed for professionals involved in the testing and diagnosis of COVID-19, with a focus on low- and middle-income settings. You will learn the latest recommendations on COVID-19 testing, get up to date information on the performance of tests and how best to deploy them.

COVID-19 Critical Care: Understanding and Application

University of Edinburgh & Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh | FutureLearn course | Starts 6 April 2020 | 5 weeks | 1 hour weekly study | Free

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/covid-19-critical-care-education-resource>

Designed for frontline clinical staff to learn the principles and practice of critical care to treat and care for critically ill patients during the COVID-19 pandemic. You will learn (1) how to apply the current and evolving principles of PPE in the care of COVID-19; (2) apply evidence-based principles of advanced organ support and monitoring to the COVID-19 critically ill patients; (3) apply evidence-based daily practices to care of the critically ill patient; and (4) develop a range of specialised self-caring practices.

Note that this resource has been created in response to the COVID-19 emergency and does not correspond to the classic structure of a FutureLearn course. You do not have to follow the week by week approach and can select the materials most relevant to your work.

Emerging respiratory viruses, including COVID-19: methods for detection, prevention, response and control

WHO | Free | 3 hours duration

<https://openwho.org/courses/introduction-to-ncov>

A general introduction to enable you to describe the fundamental principles of emerging respiratory viruses, including novel coronaviruses, and how to effectively respond to an outbreak. Intended for public health professionals, incident managers and personnel working for the UN, international organisations and NGOs.

Responding to COVID-19: Real-time training for the coronavirus disease outbreak

WHO | Available now | multiple self-paced courses

<https://openwho.org/channels/covid-19>

Note that courses are available in English and other languages including French, Portuguese and Spanish.

COVID-19: Tackling the Novel Coronavirus

LSHTM | FutureLearn course | Starts 23 March 2020 | 3 weeks | 4 hours weekly study | Free

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/covid19-novel-coronavirus>

A reminder that this course is currently running. On this course you will learn what is known about the outbreak of COVID-19 (week 1); what the practical implications for responding to COVID-19 are (week 2); and what we need to find out about COVID-19 (week 3).

Resource Hubs

Reliefweb COVID-19

<https://reliefweb.int/topics/covid-19>

Coronavirus global health emergency

<https://www.un.org/coronavirus>

Norwegian Institute of Public Health: Live map of COVID-19 evidence

<https://www.fhi.no/en/qk/systematic-reviews-hta/map/>

Overview of scientific publications on COVID-19 categorised into subgroups to provide quick access to specific topic-relevant publications to help decision makers and research navigate the research and help identify research gaps.

Vaccine Centre at LSHTM: COVID-19 vaccine development pipeline tracker

https://vac-lshtm.shinyapps.io/ncov_vaccine_landscape/

COVID-19 Research Project Tracker by UKCDR & GloPID-R

<https://www.ukcdr.org.uk/funding-landscape/covid-19-research-project-tracker/>

A live database of funded research projects across the world related to COVID-19 mapped against the priorities identified in the [WHO Coordination Global Research Roadmap: 2019 Novel Coronavirus](#).

WHO Q&A on COVID-19

<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-coronaviruses>

Note that this resource includes Q&A on COVID-19; COVID-19, pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding; COVID-19, HIV and antiretrovirals; similarities and differences COVID-19 and influenza; mass gatherings and COVID-19; IPC for healthcare workers; COVID-19 and food and agriculture; smoking and COVID-19; malaria and COVID-19.

COVID-19: Resources and research on epidemics and pandemics

<https://steps-centre.org/covid-19-coronavirus-resources-research-epidemics-pandemics/>

Stop TB Partnership TB and COVID-19

<http://www.stoptb.org/covid19.asp>

EPI-WIN: WHO information network for epidemics: COVID-19 public health emergency

<https://www.who.int/teams/risk-communication>

COVID-19: Research ethics

<https://ethicsresource.ringsgenderresearch.org/covid-19-resources/>

LSTM: COVID-19

<https://www.lstmed.ac.uk/covid-19>

LSHTM: COVID-19

<https://www.lshtm.ac.uk/research/research-action/covid-19>

International Disability Alliance: COVID 19 and the disability movement

<http://www.internationaldisabilityalliance.org/content/covid-19-and-disability-movement>

Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC)

<https://africacdc.org/covid-19/>

UNICEF: Latest news and updates on coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)

<https://www.unicef.org/coronavirus/covid-19>

Coronavirus: the science explained

<https://coronavirusexplained.ukri.org/en/>

Social Science in Humanitarian Action: Updates on the novel COVID-19 outbreak

<https://www.socialscienceinaction.org/update-novel-covid-19-outbreak/>

Special Collection: Coronavirus (COVID-19): evidence relevant to critical care

<https://www.cochrane.org/news/special-collection-coronavirus-covid-19-evidence-relevant-critical-care>

NICE UK: Rapid guidelines and evidence reviews

<https://www.nice.org.uk/covid-19>

Imperial College London MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis COVID-19 reports

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/mrc-global-infectious-disease-analysis/news--wuhan-coronavirus/>

Global research on COVID-19

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>

WHO R&D Blueprint

<https://www.who.int/blueprint/priority-diseases/key-action/novel-coronavirus/en/>

WHO: Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak resources

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Latest information and advice from the UK Government

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

CDC COVID-19 Resources

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>The Global Health Network Coronavirus outbreak knowledge hub

The Lancet COVID-19 Resource Centre

<https://www.thelancet.com/coronavirus>

Elsevier's Novel Coronavirus Information Center

<https://www.elsevier.com/connect/coronavirus-information-center>

Cell Press Coronavirus Resource Hub

<https://www.cell.com/2019-nCoV>

Cochrane Special Collections - COVID-19: infection control and prevention measures

<https://www.cochranelibrary.com/collections/doi/SC000040/full>

The BMJ Coronavirus (covid-19): Latest news and resources

https://www.bmj.com/coronavirus?int_source=wisepops&int_medium=wisepops&int_campaign=DAA_CoronaVirus_Jan24

Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Centre

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu>

Global Partnership for Sustainable Development – COVID-19 resources

<http://www.data4sdgs.org/resources/covid-19-resources>

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