

COVID-19

Health Evidence Summary No.19

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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.

Equity-focused approaches to learning loss during COVID-19

Mundy, K & Hares, S | Center for Global Development | 16 April 2020 | Blog

<https://www.cgdev.org/blog/equity-focused-approaches-learning-loss-during-covid-19>

COVID-19 “presents an especially stark equity challenge” in developing countries. This blog draws on a wide range of evidence about interventions that hold promise as equity-focused approaches to learning continuity. Emergency measures relying solely on technology will be an inadequate response for children who are most left behind by current policies. This blog points to remote learning opportunities for children without connectivity. Interventions are likely to make modest contributions – their primary role may be to keep children engaged in their education. This blog urges ministries of education to start planning now to implement targeted accelerated learning measures to ensure children from the poorest households can catch up when schools reopen.

Advocacy and action by people with disabilities about COVID-19

Dean et al. | ARISE Consortium | 16 April 2020 | Third blog of Twitter chat on Disability and COVID-19

<http://www.ariseconsortium.org/advocacy-and-action-by-people-with-disabilities-about-covid-19-coronavirus/>

This is the third blog of a series of learnings from the Twitter Chat on 6 April, hosted by ARISE on Disability and COVID-19 bringing together people with disabilities, disabled persons organisations, NGOs, and other experts from around the world. This blog focuses on advocacy and action that should be led by people with disabilities to promote change and collective action on COVID-19. Messaging should not be “for” but “by” people with disabilities and these people, along with disability experts, should be included in, and working with, agencies managing the response. Includes principles and priorities for inclusion, guidance documents on inclusion and advocacy and a note on exercising caution in language used.

COVID-19 in patients with HIV: clinical case series

Blanco et al. | The Lancet HIV | 15 April 2020 | Correspondence

[https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-3018\(20\)30111-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-3018(20)30111-9)

This Correspondence reports on demographics and baseline HIV status, clinical findings on admission and antiviral and antiretroviral treatment and outcomes of five COVID-19 patients with HIV-1 in a hospital in Barcelona, Spain. Previously COVID-19 has been described in only **one patient with HIV** in Wuhan, China.

Smell and taste dysfunction in patients with COVID-19

Xydakis et al. | The Lancet Infectious Diseases | 15 April 2020 | Correspondence

[https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099\(20\)30293-0](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1473-3099(20)30293-0)

Observations are increasing from front-line healthcare workers that anosmia, (loss of sense of smell), with or without dysgeusia (loss of taste), are symptoms frequently associated with SARS-CoV-2 infection. Whilst evidence still lacks on this, the American Academy of Otolaryngology- Head and Neck Surgery and the British Association of Otorhinolaryngology are now recommending these symptoms be added to the list of primary screening symptoms for COVID-19. Clinicians have also observed that anosmia, with or without dysgeusia, manifests early in the disease process or in patients with mild or no constitutional symptoms. SARS-CoV-2 also does not appear to generate clinically significant nasal congestion or rhinorrhoea.

Enteric involvement in hospitalised patients with COVID-19 outside Wuhan

Wan et al. | The Lancet Gastroenterology & Hepatology | 15 April 2020 | Correspondence

[https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-1253\(20\)30118-7](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2468-1253(20)30118-7)

Evidence for enteric involvement is emerging. This study examined the intestinal symptoms of 230 patients with COVID-19 from multiple medical centres located in and outside of Hubei province. The most common symptoms at onset of illness were fever (84%), cough (69%) and sputum production (43%). Diarrhoea was also observed in 21% of patients with a greater proportion of patients admitted to hospital with diarrhoea as the outbreak progressed 9 (43%) patients admitted 12 Feb to 6 March compared to 40 (19%) patients admitted between 19 Jan and 11 Feb 2020. There was a correlation between the presence of diarrhoea and the severity of respiratory symptoms and found that more patients with diarrhoea required ventilator support and were admitted to intensive care than those without diarrhoea, similar to SARS outbreak in 2003. Note that there is an absence of data on the prevalence of asymptomatic COVID-19 and that the antivirals, lopinavir and ritonavir, are known to cause diarrhoea – although in this study no correlation was observed between diarrhoea and use of antivirals.

Centre of Evidence Based Dermatology

University of Nottingham | Resource

<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/research/groups/cebd/resources/coronavirus-resource/journal-articles.aspx>

This resource lists journal articles on coronavirus with relevance for skin diseases and dermatology.

How is COVID-19 affecting malaria programs?

Ravelo, JL | Inside Development Devex 15 April 2020 | Blog

<https://www.devex.com/news/how-is-covid-19-affecting-malaria-programs-96992>

This blog highlights **recent guidance** published by the Alliance for Malaria Prevention placing importance on vector control activities in countries with active malaria transmission whilst maintaining the health and welfare of staff involved with these campaigns. But lockdowns, travel bans and movement restrictions of health workers are causing some **supply chain disruptions** essential in preparing ahead of monsoon season. Concerns are also raised that, while it has yet to be proven through clinical trials underway that hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine anti-malarial drugs are safe and effective for COVID-19 treatment, **governments** have started placing large orders of these drugs and a surge in demand could lead to shortages and availability for those who need it.

Countries facing COVID-19 debt need flexible financing: lessons from China

Chen Y. | ODI | 14 April 2020 | Blog

<https://www.odi.org/blogs/16842-countries-facing-covid-19-debt-need-flexible-financing-lessons-china?>

This blog argues for greater flexibility from both traditional and non-traditional lenders, such as China, from all responsible development partners – transparent and co-ordinated debt relief initiatives to address the immediate economic and fiscal impacts of COVID-19.

After the pandemic: How will COVID-19 transform global health and development?

Igoe, M. & Chadwick, V | Inside Development Devex | 13 April 2020 | News

<https://www.devex.com/news/after-the-pandemic-how-will-covid-19-transform-global-health-and-development-96936>

Twenty-one global health and development thinkers and leaders were asked for their insights and their predictions of the big-picture long-term consequences of the pandemic – how it will reshape health and development institutions, occupations, and priorities.

Mobile applications to support contact tracing in the EU's fight against COVID-19: Common EU Toolbox for Member States version 1.0

e-Health Network | 15 April 2020 | Toolbox

https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/ehealth/docs/covid-19_apps_en.pdf

A toolbox developed by the e-Health Network with support of the European Commission, is intended as a practical guide to implementing digital tools for tracking close contacts between device carriers as a proxy for infection risk whilst considering privacy, data protection,

anonymisation, security, effectiveness, voluntary, being required for only as long as needed and coordinated and approved by public health authorities.

Apple and Google are working together on technology for coronavirus contact tracing

Nellis, S. & Dave, P. | WEF & Reuters | 11 April 2020 | News

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/04/apple-google-working-technology-for-coronavirus-contact-tracing>

Article on contact tracing smartphone apps including Apple and Google's efforts. Includes an Image of what TraceTogether is and how it works – the contact tracing app already used in Singapore.

How social protection can help countries cope with COVID-19

Rutkowski, M | World Bank | 15 April 2020 | Blog

https://blogs.worldbank.org/voices/how-social-protection-can-help-countries-cope-covid-19?cid=EXT_WBBlogTweetableShare_D_EXT

Social Protection and Jobs Responses to COVID-19: A real-time review of country measures

Gentilini, U (WB), Almenfi M (WB), Orton I (ILO) and Dale P (UNICEF) | 10 April 2020 | "Living paper" version 4

http://www.ugogentilini.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Country-SP-COVID-responses_April10.pdf

This weekly blog, issued every Friday, provides updates on how countries are using social protection programmes for responding to COVID-19. This is the latest one.

Online learning and events

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 25 May 2020 | 3 weeks | 4 hours weekly study | Free

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

Unfacilitated access to this course remains. An updated version of this course will though be run from 25 May 2020. 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).

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.

Tracking Dashboards

Global

[WHO sitreps](#)

Johns Hopkins University

WEF

Vaccine Centre LSHTM

Our World in Data

Global 5050

Humanitarian Data Exchange

Information is Beautiful

The Commons Project

Regional

WHO Africa

African Arguments

European CDC

Country

Ghana

Indonesia

Sierra Leone

Singapore

UK

US

Guidelines

Global

Regional

Country

WHO

Africa CDC

Nigeria CDC

UK Government

UK ONS

NICE UK

US CDC

Resource Hubs

Multilaterals

WHO

	WHO risk communication
	WHO Q&A
	WHO Global research
	COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund
	UN
	UN Women
	UNOCHA
	UNHCR
	UNICEF
	UNESCO
	UN WFP
Regional & Country	World Bank
	Africa CDC
	African Union
Academic journals	The Lancet
	NEJM
	Elsevier
	BMJ
	Cell
	PLoS
	Cochrane reviews
Global Health Institutes	LSTM
	LSHTM
	Johns Hopkins University
	ICL MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis
	ODI
	Norwegian Institute of Public Health
Ethics	Rings HSG Resyst Reach Wellcome
Clinical trials	US NIH registered clinical trials
Funding bodies	UKRI
	Wellcome
Demographics	WorldPop
Global Impact Surveys	Premise COVID-19 Global Impact Study
	GeoPoll: SSA
TB	Stop TB Partnership
Disability	IDA
	Disability and inclusion
	Coregroup IDDC
SDGs	Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data
Humanitarian	Reliefweb
	Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team
	SSHAP
Narratives	David Nabarro, WHO DG Special Envoy on COVID-19

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