

COVID-19

Health Evidence Summary No.87

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This weekly COVID-19 health evidence summary (HES) is based on 3.5 hours of desk-based research. The summary is not intended to be a comprehensive summary of available evidence on COVID-19 but aims to make original documents easily accessible to decision makers which, if relevant to them, they should go to before making decisions.

Clinical characteristics and management

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
28.07.2020	Neonatal outcome in 29 pregnant women with COVID-19: A retrospective study in Wuhan, China	PLOS Medicine Article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study looks at 29 pregnant women with COVID-19 infection delivered in 2 designated general hospitals in Wuhan, China between January 30 and March 10, 2020, and 30 neonates (1 set of twins). Study observed COVID-19 or radiological features of pneumonia in some, but not all, neonates born to women with COVID-19 infection. These findings suggest that intrauterine or intrapartum transmission is possible and warrants clinical caution and further investigation. 	Pregnancy, neonates

Epidemiology and modelling

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
04.08.2020	SeroTracker: a global SARS-CoV-2 seroprevalence dashboard	Lancet Infectious Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SeroTracker is a custom-built dashboard that systematically monitors and synthesises findings from hundreds of global SARS-CoV-2 serological studies. The dashboard allows users to visualise seroprevalence estimates on a world map and compare estimates between regions, population groups, and testing modalities (eg, assay type or antibody isotype). 	

Infection Prevention and Control

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
31.07.2020	SARS-CoV-2 Transmission and Infection Among Attendees of an Overnight Camp — Georgia, June 2020	Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Despite measures to prevent the spread of the new coronavirus, at least 250 campers and staff members tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 after attending an overnight camp in the US state of Georgia. 	Infectious virus, RNA

Therapeutics

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
04.08.2020	Teaching Old Drugs New Tricks: Statins for COVID-19?	Cell metabolism Preview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An association is reported between statin use and improved outcomes in a large observational study of hospitalized COVID-19 patients. Given the widespread availability, low cost, and safety of statins, this promising result should be further investigated in randomized controlled trials. 	Statins

Vaccines

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
03.08.2020	REGN-COV2 antibody cocktail prevents and treats SARS-CoV-2 infection in rhesus macaques and hamsters	medRxiv pre-print (not peer-reviewed)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A mixture of two human antibodies against the new coronavirus shows promise in animal tests for preventing and treating COVID-19. 	
30.07.2020	Single-shot Ad26 vaccine protects against SARS-CoV-2 in rhesus macaques	Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An experimental coronavirus vaccine seems to have completely prevented infection in most monkeys that received the jab. 	

Leadership and governance

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
01.08.2020	The remaining unknowns: a mixed methods study of the current and global health research priorities for COVID-19	BMJ Article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixed methods study seeking the views of the global research community to (1) assess which of the early WHO roadmap priorities are still most pressing; (2) understand whether they are still valid in different settings, regions or countries; and (3) identify any new emerging priorities. • WHO roadmap is globally relevant; however, new important priorities have emerged, in particular, pertinent to low and lower middle-income countries, where health systems are under significant competing pressures. We also found a shift from prioritising vaccine and therapeutic development towards a focus on assessing the effectiveness, risks, benefits and trust in the variety of public health interventions and measures. Our findings also provide insight into temporal nature of these research priorities, highlighting the urgency of research that can only be undertaken within the period of virus transmission, as well as other important research questions but which can be answered outside the transmission period. 	WHO

03.08.2020	COVID-19: preparedness, challenges, public health concern and government efforts in Nepal.	Public Health Policy & Planning A Review article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Massive contact tracing and rapid testing should be done appropriately and quickly to fight against COVID-19. It is important to manage quarantine and isolation facilities well. 	Nepal
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Comments, Editorials, Opinions, Blogs, News

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal Article type
05.08.2020	The rush to create a covid-19 vaccine may do more harm than good	BMJ opinion
01.08.2020	COVID-19 casts light on respiratory health inequalities	Lancet Respiratory Medicine Editorial
04.08.2020	How the pandemic might play out in 2021 and beyond	Nature News feature
05.08.2020	No one-size-fits-all solution: combination of handwashing, mask-wearing and social distancing best to tackle COVID-19.	PLOS Blog
04.08.2020	CDC Revises Guidance on Isolation After Positive COVID-19 Test, Reports Prolonged COVID-19 Illness Among Nonhospitalized Patients	JAMA Health Network
30.07.2020	Covid-19: Excess deaths point to hidden toll in South Africa as cases surge	BMJ news
05.08.2020	From Icebox to Tinderbox — A View from the Southern Border (Mexico)	NEJM Perspective
03.08.2020	Impact of COVID-19 on maternal and child health	Lancet Correspondence

03.08.2020	PrEP retention and prescriptions for pregnant women during COVID-19 lockdown in South Africa	Lancet HIV Correspondence
03.08.2020	How COVID-19 could benefit tuberculosis and HIV services in South Africa	Lancet Respiratory Medicine Comment
01.08.2020	COVID-19 has “devastating” effect on women and girls	Lancet World Report
02.08.2020	Philippines braces for the typhoon season amidst COVID-19	Lancet Regional Health Summary
01.08.2020	Challenges facing individuals and researchers: suicide in India in the COVID-19 pandemic	Lancet Psychiatry Correspondence
01.08.2020	Harm reduction during the COVID-19 outbreak in Iran	Lancet Psychiatry Correspondence
01.08.2020	Venezuelan migrants in Colombia: COVID-19 and mental health	Lancet Psychiatry Correspondence
01.08.2020	Homeless people with mental illness in India and COVID-19	Lancet Psychiatry Correspondence
03.08.2020	Impact of COVID-19 on maternal and child health	Lancet Correspondence
03.08.2020	PrEP retention and prescriptions for pregnant women during COVID-19 lockdown in South Africa	Lancet HIV Correspondence
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01.08.2020	Challenges facing individuals and researchers: suicide in India in the COVID-19 pandemic	Lancet Psychiatry Correspondence
30.07.2020	Covid-19 is causing the collapse of Brazil's national health service	BMJ Feature
31.07.2020	Food as a Critical Social Determinant of Health Among Older Adults During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic	JAMA Health Forum Article
30.07.2020	Covid-19 is causing the collapse of Brazil's national health service	BMJ Feature
31.07.2020	Food as a Critical Social Determinant of Health Among Older Adults During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Pandemic	JAMA Health Forum Article

Guidelines, Statements & Tools

Publication Date	Title/URL	Source	Summary
05.08.20	Coronavirus (COVID-19): support for wellbeing in the healthcare workforce	Cochrane	Updated Special Collection which brings together Cochrane evidence on interventions that may help support the wellbeing of the healthcare workforce and reducing occupational stress.
30.07.20	Remdesivir for severe covid-19: a clinical practice guideline	BMJ	

Dashboards & Trackers

Cases & deaths: Global	Cases & deaths: Regional	Cases & deaths: Country	Living evidence & policy maps	Current research including trials	Diagnostics	Treatments	Vaccines
WHO sitreps	WHO Africa	Ghana	COVID-NMA	WHO	FIND SARS-CoV-2 Test Tracker	Global COVID-19 Clinical Trial Tracker	CEPI
WHO dashboard	African Arguments	Indonesia	EPPI Centre	WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP)	FIND SARS-CoV-2 Diagnostics: performance data	US NIH registered clinical trials	Vaccine Centre LSHTM
Johns Hopkins University	European CDC	Nigeria CDC	Norwegian Institute of Public Health	Cytel	Serology-based tests for COVID-19	Solidarity trial	COVID-19 Oxford Vaccine Trial
WEF		Sierra Leone	Oxford C19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT)	US NIH	Our World in Data: C19 Testing	COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator	COVID-19 Vaccine Tracker

Our World in Data		Singapore	Our World in Data: C19 Policy responses	COVID-evidence			
Global 5050		UK	IFPRI COVID-19 Policy Response Portal	Cochrane			
CEBM, University of Oxford		US	COVID-19 Primer	Clinicaltrials.gov			
Humanitarian Data Exchange			NIH LitCovid	UKCDR			
Information is Beautiful			WHO COVID-19 Database				
LSHTM							
HealthMap (cases)							
The Commons Project							
SeroTracker							

C19 Resource Hubs

Global	Regional & Country	Academic journals & Publishers	Institutes/Centres /Funders/Other	Health Topics	Social Sciences
WHO COVID-19 pandemic	Africa CDC	Annals of Internal Medicine	LSTM	Stop TB Partnership	SSHAP
WHO risk communication	African Union	BMJ	LSHTM		IDA
WHO Q&A	Nigeria CDC	Bulletin of the WHO	ICL MRC Centre for Global Infectious Disease Analysis	Global Menstrual Collective	Disability and inclusion
WHO Global research	GeoPoll: SSA	Cambridge University Press	ODI	SLH: Handwashing in low resource settings	Coregroup IDDC
COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund	Global Health Network Africa	Cell Press	Johns Hopkins University	RBM Partnership	Ethics, health systems & COVID-19
UN	African Academy of Sciences	Cochrane	Center for Global Development	Epidemic Preparedness Innovations	Social Development Direct C19 blog series
UN Women	Africa Evidence Network	Elsevier	CMMID Repository		
UNOCHA	OCHA Southern and Eastern Africa	Health Policy and Planning	Norwegian Institute of Public Health		

	COVID-19 Digest				
UNHCR	South African Government	JAMA Network	Oxford Centre for Evidence-based Medicine		
UNICEF		The Lancet	HEART		
UNESCO		medRxiv and bioRxiv (Preprints)	UKRI		
UN WFP		NEJM	Evidence Aid		
GOARN		Oxford University Press	NIH		
EPI-WIN		PLoS	IFPRI Resources and Analyses of C19 Impact		
World Bank		SAGE journals	Prevent Epidemics		
Our World in Data		Science			
COVID-19 Narratives by David Nabarro		Springer Nature			
Reliefweb		SSRN (Preprints)			
Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team		Wiley			

Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data					
WorldPop					
Flowminder					
COVID-END					
Premise COVID-19 Global Impact Study					
GISAID					

Online learning & events

Date	Title/URL	Online learning/event	Duration	Lead
June 2020	OpenWHO, the free, open-access learning platform for health emergencies, now offers 10 online courses related to COVID19.	Online courses	Varies	WHO
Available now	Standard precautions: Environmental cleaning and disinfection	Online course	1 hour	WHO
Available now	COVID-19: Effective Nursing in Times of Crisis	Online course	2 weeks – 2 hours per week	Johns Hopkins School of Nursing

Available now	WHO Academy and WHO Info mobile applications	Mobile app		WHO
Available now	COVID-19: Pandemics, Modelling and Policy	Online learning	2 weeks 2 hours weekly study	FutureLearn UNESCO UNITWIN Complex Systems Digital Campus/Open University
11.5.2020	COVID-19 Contact Tracing course	Online learning	5 hours	Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Health
7-28 May 2020	Virtual Evidence Weeks	5 sessions	1h 30	International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3ie)
Tuesdays at 1700 CEST (Geneva time) & Thursdays 0830 CEST (Geneva time)	COVID-19 Open online brief with Dr David Nabarro	Event	1h	4SD
Available now	Emerging respiratory viruses, including COVID-19: methods for detection, prevention, response and control	Online learning	3 hours	WHO
Available now	Responding to COVID-19: Real-time training for the coronavirus disease outbreak	Online learning	Multiple self-paced course	WHO
25 May 2020	COVID-19: Tackling the Novel Coronavirus	Online learning	3 weeks 4 hours	FutureLearn LSHTM/UK PHIRST

			weekly study	
Available online now without mentors. Updated version will commence early June 2020	COVID-19 Diagnostics and Testing	Online learning	3 weeks 3 hours weekly study	FutureLearn FIND/LSHTM/ASLM
6 April 2020	COVID-19 Critical Care: Understanding and Application	Online learning	5 weeks 1 hour weekly study	FutureLearn University of Edinburgh & Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh
Available now	COVID-19 supporting online courses	Online learning	Multiple self-paced course	BMJ Learning

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Rapid review methodology

The rapid weekly search for peer-reviewed literature is carried out through a PubMed search with the following keywords (“COVID-19” OR “severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2” OR “2019-nCoV” OR “SARS-CoV-2” OR “2019nCoV” OR “coronavirus”) AND (“Africa” OR “South Asia” OR “Developing” OR “low-income” OR “low income” OR “lower-middle income” OR “low and middle income” OR “LMIC” OR “LIC” OR “global south”) OR (“poverty”) OR (“equity” OR “equities”), restricted to articles published in the previous 2 to 3 days, in English. This is complemented by a search of the homepage of the following high-impact global health journals: The Lancet journals, New England Journal of Medicine, Nature, JAMA, Annals of Internal Medicine, Cochrane Reviews, BMJ Global Health, the PLoS journals and a Twitter search of their Twitter pages. A search also of preprints from bioRxiv and medRxiv. Please note that papers that have **not been peer-reviewed** are highlighted in red. All primary research papers that relate to the primary and secondary impacts of the COVID-19 response in LMICs, and disease control and health system responses are included. Articles related to tackling the secondary impacts on other sectors are not included. Additional commentaries, opinions, and commissioned pieces are selected based on relevance.

The search for dashboards, guidelines, tools, editorials, comments, blogs, opinions and news is through the academic journals listed above, C19 resource hubs and following lead academics and professionals on Twitter.

About this report

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