



# COVID-19

## Health Evidence Summary No.13

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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.*

### **The TB response is heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic**

Stop TB Partnership | 8 April 2020 | Rapid assessment

<https://mailchi.mp/stoptb.org/covid-19-affects-tb-services?e=5d5565b21a>

The results of a rapid assessment of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated measures have on the TB response are detailed here. The Stop TB Partnership Secretariat organised interviews with National TB Programmes and focal points based on a set of open-ended questions in 20 High Burden Countries that represent 54% of the global TB burden. The [Global Coalition of TB Activists](#) did a worldwide survey through their network of members collecting answers from TB civil society and communities from 16 countries. The Stop TB Partnership calls on all governments to ensure continuity of services for people affected by TB with no interruption and no impact on quality.

### **COVID-19 in low-income countries – we need rapid learning about effective handwashing initiatives**

Myers, J. | IDS | 8 April 2020 | Opinion

<https://www.ids.ac.uk/opinions/covid-19-in-low-income-countries-we-need-rapid-learning-about-effective-handwashing-initiatives/>

How will money be spent effectively to [raise awareness about handwashing and provide over 20 million hygiene products](#)? Increasing handwashing include 'hardware' provision and 'software' promotion and behaviour change communication. A 2017 systematic review from 42 impact evaluations and 28 qualitative studies across low and middle-income countries concluded that community-approaches were most effective but even these approaches struggled to with sustaining handwashing behaviours. Communication about handwashing to prevent COVID-19 spread must 'take care it does no harm' in that it is not viewed as the sole solution but it part of a package of different behaviours required to slow the spread. Community engagement is key.

## **The Threat to Africa**

Sands, P. | The Global Fund | 7 April 2020 | Op Ed

<https://www.theglobalfund.org/en/blog/2020-04-07-the-threat-to-africa/>

Current confirmed cases and deaths are still relatively low in Africa, but the continent may be four to six weeks behind Europe's outbreak and the trajectory and impact could be far worse. Africa faces limited intensive care capacity, with many countries having none, and weak health systems already overstretched by the high burden of other infectious diseases including notably TB, malaria and HIV. The full impact of other conditions on COVID-19 prognosis is not yet known, but people living with HIV are immunocompromised and those affected by TB may have some pulmonary dysfunction. African countries can draw on their experience and expertise in mass testing, screening and tracing, in strengthening labs and diagnostics capacity and in mobilising communities. Some African leaders have already shown political will and demonstrated their preparedness to act decisively. The African CDC is coordinating epidemiological data and collaboration across the continent. Demographics may influence overall fatality rate with only 3 percent of the population over 65 years, versus 20 per cent in the European Union. However, challenges remain 'tremendous'. COVID-19 could stop progress in ending the HIV, TB and malaria epidemics, diseases could be misdiagnosed where there is symptom overlap, fear may prevent seeking of diagnosis and treatment, and social distancing measures will impact livelihoods and getting food – hitting the poorest hardest.

## **South Africa hopes its battle with HIV and TB helped prepare it for COVID-19**

Nordling, L. | Science | 7 April 2020 | News

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/04/south-africa-hopes-its-battle-hiv-and-tb-helped-prepare-it-covid-19>

Infection control measures are similar for COVID-19 and TB so health care workers are familiar with the protective gear they need to treat suspected COVID-19 patients. South Africa's government is repurposing the aggressive "find, treat, and prevent" strategy from its HIV response. Mobile COVID-19 testing clinics have gone into densely populated areas this week to identify cases and contacts. Research is taking place. But will this be enough to contain the epidemic?

## **Advice on the use of masks in the context of COVID-19**

WHO | 6 April 2020 | Document

[https://www.who.int/publications-detail/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-\(2019-ncov\)-outbreak](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak)

WHO advice on the use of masks in communities, during home care and in health care settings in areas that have reported cases of COVID-19. Intended for individuals in the community, public health and infection prevention and control professionals, health care managers, health care workers and community health workers. This updated version includes advice for decision makers on the use of masks for healthy people in community settings.

## **Briefing note on addressing mental health and psychosocial aspects of COVID-19 outbreak version 1.0**

<https://www.mhinnovation.net/sites/default/files/downloads/resource/MHPSS%20COVID19%20Briefing%20Note%202%20March%202020-English.pdf>

Includes 14-step global recommendations to strength response operations and target interventions for elderly people, children and adults in isolation.

## **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>

#### **WEF: Visualisation tracking confirmed cases of COVID-19 as it spreads. Updated daily.**

[https://wef-prod.earthtime.org/m/stories/2019\\_nCOV\\_infection](https://wef-prod.earthtime.org/m/stories/2019_nCOV_infection)

#### **Vaccine Centre, LSHTM**

[https://vac-lshtm.shinyapps.io/ncov\\_tracker/](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>

## Tools

### **WhatsApp coronavirus information hub**

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

### **CMMID Repository: Effectiveness of airport screening at detecting travellers infected with COVID-19**

[https://cmmid-lshtm.shinyapps.io/traveller\\_screening/](https://cmmid-lshtm.shinyapps.io/traveller_screening/)

App to model effectiveness of airport screening.

### **Disability Inclusive Community Action – COVID-19 Matrix**

CBM | 30 March 2020 | Tool

<https://www.cbm.org/news/news/news-2020/cbm-develops-disability-inclusive-community-action-covid-19-matrix/>

## Online learning and events

### **Online event: Policy modelling for COVID-19: Better data for better decision-making in low and middle-income countries**

Tuesday 14 April 2020 0900-1030 ET | Center for Global Development

<https://www.cgdev.org/event/policy-modelling-covid-19-better-data-better-decision-making-low-and-middle-income-countries>

Moderator: Kalipso Chalkidou (CDG). Features Dan Ollendorf (CGD), Yot Teerawattananon (Thai Ministry of Public Health) and Anna Vassall (LSHTM)

### **Online Event: Approaching COVID-19 Risk and Response through a Gender Lens**

Thursday 9 April 2020 1300-1430 ET | Center for Global Development

<https://www.cgdev.org/event/approaching-covid-19-risk-and-response-through-gender-lens>

Moderator Megan O'Donnell (CGD). Features Gary Barker (Promundo), Carleigh Krubiner (CGD), Amber Peterman (University of North Carolina Chapel Hill), Crystal Simeoni (FEMNET), Clare Wenham (LSE), Olabukunola Williams (Education as a Vaccine)

### **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**

### **Resources on coronavirus and disability**

<https://asksource.info/covid-resources/search>

### **ODI Coronavirus: latest research and analysis on the implications of the coronavirus pandemic worldwide**

<https://www.odi.org/our-work/coronavirus>

### **International Disability and Development Consortium and CORE Group: Repository of resources on disability inclusion and COVID-19**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IVP1u6yHfLuN9qNyLEct5-vtC0aqLKtKr-o-faAjves/edit>

### **US NIH online platform of all registered, ongoing clinical trials globally**

<https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/results?cond=COVID-19>

### **COVID-19 Narratives by Dr David Nabarro**

<https://www.4sd.info/covid-19-narratives/>

These narratives are being written by David Nabarro, Co-Director of the Imperial College Institute of Global Health Innovation at Imperial College London, Strategic Director for 4SD and one of six Special Envoys to the WHO DG Special Envoy on COVID-19, and peers to share with those who want more information about the situation and to help raise the awareness and readiness of all actors. Please visit [WHO website](#) for official guidance.

### **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/](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](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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