

COVID-19

Health Evidence Summary No.69

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22 June 2020

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 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.

Epidemiology and modelling

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
20.06.2020	The Relationship between the Global Burden of Influenza from 2017-2019 and COVID-19	medRxiv (non-peer reviewed) Article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Europe and Central Asia and North America ranked first and second for COVID-19 and second and first for influenza, respectively. East Asia and the Pacific traditionally ranked higher for influenza but to date, has been less affected by COVID-19. Between regions, Sub-Saharan Africa ranked amongst the least affected by both influenza and COVID-19. 	Transmission

Infection Prevention and Control

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
18.06.2020	Use of N95, Surgical, and Cloth Masks to Prevent COVID-19 in Health Care and Community Settings: Living Practice Points From the American College of Physicians	Annals of Internal Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In this article, the American College of Physicians (ACP) provides recommendations based on the best available evidence through 14 April 2020 on the effectiveness of N95 respirators, surgical masks, and cloth masks in reducing transmission of infection. 	Face masks,
21.06.2020	Risk of SARS-CoV-2 infection from contaminated water systems	medRxiv (non-peer reviewed) Article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Authors quantify SARS-CoV-2 virus survivability within water and the risk of infection posed by faecal contaminated water within 39 countries. They identify that the virus can remain stable within water for up to 25 days, and country specific relative risk of infection posed by faecal contaminated water is related to the environment. Faecal contaminated rivers, waterways and water systems within countries with high infection rates can provide infectious doses >100 copies within 100 ml of water. The implications for freshwater systems, the coastal marine environment and virus resurgence are discussed. 	Infection

Indirect impact of COVID-19

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
19.06.2020	COVID-19 Pandemic and Mitigation Strategies: Implications for Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition	The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This review highlights key areas of concern for maternal and child nutrition during and in the aftermath of COVID-19 while providing strategic guidance for countries in their efforts to reduce maternal and child undernutrition. 	Nutrition

Leadership and governance

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
17.06.2020	The COVID-19 Pandemic and the Pathology of the Economic and Political Architecture in Cameroon	Health care article	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examines the factors restricting an effective response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Cameroon. Article argues that structural adjustment policies in the 1980s and 1990s as well as corruption and limited investment in recent times have severely weakened the country's health system. This article also emphasises the interconnection between poverty, slums, and COVID-19. This interconnection brings to the fore inequality in Cameroon. Arguably, this inequality could facilitate the spread of COVID-19 in the country. This article draws attention to the political forces shaping the response to the 	Inequality, governance

			<p>pandemic and contends that in some regions in the country, the lack of an effective response to the pandemic may not necessarily be due to a lack of resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At times, medical supplies and other forms of assistance may be available, but structural violence impairs access to these resources. Politics must be brought into the COVID-19 discourse, as it shapes the response to the pandemic. 	
19.06.2020	COVID -19 and the State of African Neurology	European journal of neurology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expectations of Africa having high rates of infection and death from COVID-19 have, as yet, not materialised. At the time of writing, all 54 countries have officially reported COVID-19 cases; 123,724 people have tested positive for the disease and 3,668 people have died. • The reasons for such low levels may be due, in part, to countries rapid responses 	

Health systems

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal/Article type	Summary	Keywords
18.06.2020	An Adaptive Model of Health System Organization and Responses Helped Vietnam to Successfully Halt the	The international journal of health planning and management Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This commentary shares with the international community how an adaptive model of health system organization and responses helped Vietnam to break transmission of coronavirus. • An effective model is adaptive to time and context, and mobilizes and engages the wider 	Health systems

Covid-19
Pandemic:
What
Lessons Can
Be Learned
From a
Resource-
Constrained
Country

society. - Merging of different health system units into Center for Diseases Controls was a health system organization that saved massive resources.

- Early establishment of a formal committee responding to the pandemic helped unify every public health strategy.
- Mobilization of different stakeholders and communities added resources and facilitated a synchronous implementation of response strategies, even where those strategies involved significant personal or financial sacrifice.
- National training on Covid-19 treatment for healthcare professionals across the entire hospital system was useful to expand the health service availability.
- Quickly published response guidelines helped to activate every level of the health system and involve every sector of society. A strategy of keeping high alert and preemptive action is also essential for coping with the pandemic.

Comments, Editorials, Opinions, Blogs, News

Publication date	Title/URL	Journal Article type	Author(s)
19.06.2020	Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID - 19): Potential implications for weak health systems and conflict zones in the Middle East and North Africa region	The international journal of health planning and management short communication	Omar B. Da'ar, Mohamed Haji, Hoda Jradi
18.06.2020	Is the effect of COVID-19 on children underestimated in low- and middle-income countries?	Acta Paediatrica	Justus Simba, Ian Sinha, Patrick Mburugu et al
18.06.2020	COVID-19 Across Africa: Epidemiologic Heterogeneity and Necessity of Contextually Relevant Transmission Models and Intervention Strategies	Annals of Internal Medicine Ideas and opinions	Jean Olivier Twahirwa Rwema, Daouda Diouf,
19.06.2020	Reordering gender systems: can COVID-19 lead to improved gender equality and health?	Lancet Comment	Tania King, Belinda Hewitt Bradley Crammond, Georgina Sutherland, Humaira Maheen, Anne Kavanagh
20.06.2020	Global governance for COVID-19 vaccines	Lancet Editorial	
19.06.2020	Lockdown is not egalitarian: the costs fall on the global poor	Lancet Correspondence	Alexander Broadbent, Damian Walker, Kalipso Chalkidou, Richard Sullivan, Amanda Glassman

20.06.2020	COVID-19 resurgence in Iran	Lancet World Report	Sharmila Devi
18.06.2020	African countries set the tone in technological innovation to fight COVID-19	Plos Blog	Azan Z. Virji, Jean Claude Mugunga
19.06.2020	Covid-19 is testing the limits of the fragile healthcare system in Peru's Amazon region	BMJ Opinion	Kiran Mitha
19.06.2020	Covid-19: Public health agencies review whether vitamin D supplements could reduce risk	BMJ News	Ingrid Torjesen
16.06.2020	One Size Does Not Fit All: COVID-19 Responses Across African Settings	SSHAP	Social Science in Humanitarian Action Platform

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	
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							

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		Social Development Direct C19 blog series
UN Women	Africa Evidence Network	Elsevier	CMMID Repository		
UNOCHA	OCHA Southern and Eastern Africa	JAMA Network	Norwegian Institute of Public Health		

	COVID-19 Digest				
UNHCR	South African Government	The Lancet	Oxford Centre for Evidence-based Medicine		
UNICEF		medRxiv and bioRxiv (Preprints)	HEART		
UNESCO		NEJM	UKRI		
UN WFP		Oxford University Press	Evidence Aid		
GOARN		PLoS	NIH		
EPI-WIN		SAGE journals	IFPRI Resources and Analyses of C19 Impact		
World Bank		Science	Prevent Epidemics		
Our World in Data		Springer Nature			
COVID-19 Narratives by David Nabarro		SSRN (Preprints)			
Reliefweb		Wiley			
Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team					
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
24-25.06.2020	Africa's leadership role in COVID-19 vaccine development and access	Zoom webinar		African Union & Africa CDC
18.06.20 2 pm EDT	Social, political, and public health factors fuelling the COVID19 crisis in Brazil and Colombia	Virtual event	45 mins	Broad Global Health Initiative
Available now	Standard precautions: Environmental cleaning and disinfection	Online course	1 hour	WHO
16.06.2020	Africa beyond COVID-19	Virtual event	1h 30 hours	ODI

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
12.05.2020	COVID-19 and maintaining quality essential health services	Webinar	1 hour	WHO & ISQua – Dr Shams Syed, Dr Peter Lachman, Dr Teri Rynolds & Dr Ed Kelley
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
30.04.2020	Professor Chris Whitty's Gresham lecture on COVID-19	Event	1h 20	Gresham College
Available now	Emerging respiratory viruses, including COVID-19: methods for detection,	Online learning	3 hours	WHO

	prevention, response and control			
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 weekly study	FutureLearn LSHTM/UK PHRST
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

Suggested citation

Millington, K.A. and Reddin, S. (2020). *COVID-19 Health Evidence Summary No.69*. K4D Evidence Summary. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies.

Rapid review methodology

The rapid daily 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 (“equity” OR “equities”) OR (“poverty”), 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

This daily COVID-19 health evidence summary (HES) is based on 3 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. The HES are not intended to replace medical or professional advice and the researcher or the K4D consortium cannot be held responsible for any decisions made about COVID-19 on the basis of the HES alone. K4D services are provided by a consortium of leading organisations working in international development, led by the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), with Education Development Trust, Itad, University of Leeds Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), University of Birmingham International Development Department (IDD) and the University of Manchester Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI).

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