



List of guidance from ECDC and recent publications on COVID-19

COVID-19 Digest 11 August 2022

Please find below a list with links to all guidance produced by ECDC on COVID-19 and a compilation of some recent publications on COVID-19.

We are constantly assessing the need to update existing, or produce new, guidance in light of recent developments.

Please forward this Digest widely to others you feel would benefit from it. To subscribe to the COVID-19 Digest send an email to CSS@ecdc.europa.eu with the subject "Subscribe to COVID-19 Digest".

Best wishes,

PHE Technical Team

ECDC Outputs

Recent publications

Methods for the detection and characterisation of SARS-CoV-2 variants – second update Technical guidance – 02 Aug [Read more »](#)

ECDC expert consultation on knowledge and research gaps related to the COVID-19 public health response Technical report – 29 July [Read more »](#)

Preliminary public health considerations for COVID-19 vaccination strategies in the second half of 2022 Technical guidance – 18 July [Read more »](#)

Operational considerations for respiratory virus surveillance in Europe Technical guidance – 18 July [Read more »](#)

COVID-19 Contact tracing: country experiences and way forward Meeting report – 12 July [Read more »](#)

Updated joint statement from ECDC and EMA on additional booster doses of COVID-19 vaccines 11 July [Read more »](#)

Survey on the implementation of integrated surveillance of respiratory viruses with pandemic potential 17 June [Read more »](#)

Situation updates on COVID-19

Joint ECDC-WHO Regional Office for Europe Weekly COVID-19 Surveillance Bulletin [Read more »](#)

COVID-19 country overview: Provides an overview of the evolving epidemiological situation for the EU/EEA

(including case/death notification rates, testing rates, test positivity, hospital and ICU occupancy/capacity per country, vaccination uptake at EU/EEA and country level). [Read more »](#)

COVID-19 situation update for the EU/EEA: Includes an update on the number of cases and deaths and geographical distribution of 14-day notification rates for the EU/EEA. [Read more »](#)

COVID-19 situation update worldwide – DISCONTINUED as of 20 June 2022: You can still access the archived worldwide data on the number of cases and deaths and geographical distribution of 14-day notification rates. [Read more »](#)

For updates, please refer to the [World Health Organization \(WHO\) data on COVID-19](#) and the [WHO Weekly Epidemiological and Weekly Operational Updates page for the non-EU/EEA](#) countries.

Situation dashboard: Interactive map with the latest available data on COVID-19 (worldwide). [Read more »](#)

Vaccine tracker: Real time data on national vaccine doses distribution and vaccine update within EU/EEA countries. [Read more »](#)

Maps in support of the Council Recommendation on a coordinated approach to the restriction of free movement in response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the EU/EEA. **TEMPORARILY DISCONTINUED** during summer. Their utility and continuation will be discussed again in September 2022. You can still access the archive of data and maps [Read more »](#)

Response Measures Database of ECDC and the Joint Research Centre (JRC) of the European Commission is a regularly updated archive of non-pharmaceutical interventions introduced by 30 countries in the EU/EEA. [Read more »](#)

Updates on SARS-CoV-2 variants

SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern: Overview of the different variants that are currently being considered of concern and of interest as assessed by ECDC. [Read more »](#)

Variants of concern. The ECDC country overview includes an own section on variants of concern. It includes e.g. a map of sequencing volume, variant data table and weekly variant distribution by country. [Read more »](#)

Dashboard on SARS-CoV-2 variants. This dashboard provides an overview of the proportion of variants of concern and variants of interest in EU/EEA Member States together with sequencing volumes and complements the ECDC country overview report. [Read more »](#)

Download data on COVID-19

Much of ECDC's data can be downloaded from its website. This for instance includes, but is not limited to, reported number of cases and deaths, 14-day case notification rates, ICU and hospital admissions/occupancy, testing rates/positivity, vaccination data and response measures implemented in EU/EEA countries. [Link to downloadable data»](#)

Other ECDC Outputs

ECDC website on COVID-19 – [Read more »](#)

ECDC surveillance definitions for COVID-19. [Read more »](#)

Find the latest evidence on:

- [Coronaviruses](#)
- [Risk factors and risk groups](#)
- [COVID-19 infection](#)
- [SARS-CoV-2 in children](#)
- [Clinical characteristics of COVID-19](#)
- [Diagnostic testing and screening for SARS-CoV-2](#)
- [Immune responses and immunity to SARS-CoV-2](#)
- [Treatment and pharmaceutical prophylaxis](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccines](#)

Prevention and control of COVID-19 – how to protect yourself, risk groups, COVID-19 vaccination, patient and case management. [Read more »](#)

Q & A on COVID-19 aimed at public and lay audience – Questions and answers. [Read more »](#)

Infographics, Videos, Webinars and more

Infographics and leaflets about COVID-19 – Infographics, leaflets and posters on COVID-19. [Read more »](#)

Videos on COVID-19 – What do we know about the COVID-19. [Read more »](#)

ECDC Virtual Academy (EVA) – COVID-19 Micro learning for public health professionals. [Read more »](#)

Recent peer-reviewed publications

Disclaimer: In view of the large number of COVID-19 related publications, this list is compiled based on a rapid review of titles and abstracts and subjective selection of peer-reviewed articles and does not include an additional qualitative assessment or critical appraisal of the evidence by ECDC.

1. Rapidly adapting primary care sentinel surveillance across seven countries in Europe for COVID-19 in the first half of 2020: strengths, challenges, and lessons learned *Euro Surveill* [Read more »](#)
2. Risk of long COVID associated with delta versus omicron variants of SARS-CoV-2 *Lancet* [Read more »](#)
3. Protection provided by vaccination, booster doses and previous infection against covid-19 infection, hospitalisation or death over time in Czechia *PloS One* [Read more »](#)
4. Long COVID burden and risk factors in 10 UK longitudinal studies and electronic health records *Nat Commun* [Read more »](#)
5. Effectiveness of BNT162b2 vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 infection and severe COVID-19 in children aged 5-11 years in Italy: a retrospective analysis of January-April, 2022 *Lancet* [Read more »](#)
6. The Real-World Impact of Vaccination on COVID-19 Cases During Europe's Fourth Wave *Int J Public Health* [Read more »](#)
7. Disability adjusted life years associated with COVID-19 in Denmark in the first year of the pandemic *BMC Public Health* [Read more »](#)
8. An analysis of 45 large-scale wastewater sites in England to estimate SARS-CoV-2 community prevalence *Nat Commun* [Read more »](#)
9. Transmission of SARS-CoV-2 among children and staff in German daycare centres *Epidemiol Infect* [Read more »](#)
10. Effectiveness of a fourth dose of mRNA COVID-19 vaccine against all-cause mortality in long-term care facility residents and in the oldest old: A nationwide, retrospective cohort study in Sweden *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
11. Estimation of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against hospitalisation in individuals aged ≥ 65 years using electronic health registries; a pilot study in four EU/EEA countries, October 2021 to March 2022 *Euro Surveill* [Read more »](#)
12. COVID-19 vaccination and BA.1 breakthrough infection induce neutralising antibodies which are less efficient against BA.4 and BA.5 Omicron variants, Israel, March to June 2022 *Euro Surveill* [Read more »](#)
13. A nationwide questionnaire study of post-acute symptoms and health problems after SARS-CoV-2 infection in Denmark *Nat Commun* [Read more »](#)
14. Clinical Aspects of the Subsequent SARS-CoV-2 Waves in Children from 2020 to 2022-Data from a Local Cohort in Cologne, Germany (n = 21,635) *Viruses* [Read more »](#)
15. Experience with open schools and preschools in periods of high community transmission of COVID-19 in Norway during the academic year of 2020/2021 *BMC Public Health* [Read more »](#)
16. COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against hospitalization due to SARS-CoV-2: A test-negative design study based on Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) sentinel surveillance in

- Spain Influenza Other Respir Viruses [Read more »](#)
17. Waning effectiveness of BNT162b2 and ChAdOx1 covid-19 vaccines over six months since second dose: OpenSAFELY cohort study using linked electronic health records *BMJ* [Read more »](#)
 18. Ranking the effectiveness of non-pharmaceutical interventions to counter COVID-19 in UK universities with vaccinated population *Sci Rep* [Read more »](#)
 19. Computational models predicting the early development of the COVID-19 pandemic in Sweden: systematic review, data synthesis, and secondary validation of accuracy *Sci Rep* [Read more »](#)
 20. Omicron-associated changes in SARS-CoV-2 symptoms in the United Kingdom *Clin Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
 21. COVID-19 Hospitalization Among Children <18 Years by Variant Wave in Norway *Pediatrics* [Read more »](#)
 22. Milder disease trajectory among COVID-19 patients hospitalised with the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant compared with the Delta variant in Norway *Scand J Public Health* [Read more »](#)
 23. Rate of SARS-CoV-2 Reinfection During an Omicron Wave in Iceland *JAMA Netw Open* [Read more »](#)
 24. Functional immunity against SARS-CoV-2 in the general population after a booster campaign and the Delta and Omicron waves, Switzerland, March 2022 *Euro Surveill* [Read more »](#)
 25. SARS-CoV-2 antibody persistence after five and twelve months: A cohort study from South-Eastern Norway *PloS One* [Read more »](#)
 26. Post-vaccination infection rates and modification of COVID-19 symptoms in vaccinated UK school-aged children and adolescents: A prospective longitudinal cohort study *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
 27. Characteristics associated with the residual risk of severe COVID-19 after a complete vaccination schedule: A cohort study of 28 million people in France *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
 28. Observed protection against SARS-CoV-2 reinfection following a primary infection: A Danish cohort study among unvaccinated using two years of nationwide PCR-test data *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)

Additional Resources

Information from European Institutions, International Organisations and Centres for Disease Control and Prevention

European Union. Re-open EU: interactive tool with country information for travel and transportation [Read more »](#)

European Commission. Coronavirus response. [Read more »](#)

European Parliament. The EU's response to the coronavirus. [Read more »](#)

EU Healthy Gateways: [Published guidance and reports for COVID-19](#)

European Agency for Safety and Health (OSHA). COVID-19: Resources for the workplace: EU guidance, telework, resources from EU and international organisations. [Read more »](#)

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). COVID-19. [Read more »](#)

European Medicines Agency (EMA): Treatments and vaccines for COVID-19. [Latest updates on COVID-19.](#)

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). COVID-19 and drugs. [Read more »](#)

Health Systems Response Monitor: [COVID-19 Health System Response Monitor](#) designed in response to the COVID-19 outbreak to collect and organize up-to-date information on how countries are responding to the crisis

World Health Organization (WHO). Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. [Read more »](#)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO): Novel Coronavirus. [Read more »](#)

African Centres of Disease Control and Prevention. [Read more »](#)

Public Health Agency of Canada. [Read more »](#)

Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention. [Read more »](#)

Israel Center for Disease Control, Ministry of Health. [Read more »](#)

Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency. [Read more »](#)

Ministry of Health of Mexico. [Read more »](#)

UK Health Security Agency. [Read more »](#)

US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Read more »](#)

COVID-19 information pages of EU/EEA Member States



[Austria »](#)

[Belgium »](#)

[Bulgaria »](#)

[Croatia »](#)

[Cyprus »](#)

[Czechia »](#)

[Denmark »](#)

[Estonia »](#)

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[Sweden »](#)

Living Evidence Summaries

COAP: [COVID-19 Open Access Project](#) from the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine ([ISPM](#)). This database is updated daily with published articles from Pubmed and EMBASE and with preprints from medRxiv and bioRxiv.

COVID-END McMaster Health Forum: [living evidence syntheses](#) on a variety of topics including efficacy and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines in the presence of variants of concern (VOCs).

EPPI Centre: [COVID-19](#): a living systematic map of the evidence. Up-to-date map of the current evidence that are partitioned into broad domains for easy exploration.

MAGIC project (MAGIC Evidence Ecosystem Foundation, theBMJ, WHO): [Drug treatments for COVID-19](#) living systematic review and network meta-analysis and a [living WHO guideline on drugs for COVID-19](#)

NMA initiative: [COVID-19 – living initiative](#). Living mapping and living systematic review of Covid-19 trials.

PregCOV-19LSR by the University of Birmingham. Series of living systematic reviews (LSR) involving pregnant and postnatal women at risk, suspected, and diagnosed to have COVID-19 according to recommended methods. [Read more »](#)

WHO: [Living WHO guideline on drugs for COVID-19](#) (published by theBMJ)

Science Updates

Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine CEBM: [Oxford COVID-19 Evidence Service](#). Rapid reviews of primary care questions relating to COVID-19.

Cochrane: [Cochrane Reviews](#) and related content from the Cochrane Library relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID Reference International: Every day the "Top 10 scientific COVID-19 papers of the day" are presented. Also provides multiple other useful links to literature. [Read more »](#)

Evidence Aid: [Evidence Collection](#) on Coronavirus (COVID-19). This evidence collection contains plain-language summaries of high-quality research which are available in English, and translated into French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic and Chinese (simplified and traditional).

Health Information and Quality Authority Ireland: [COVID-19 Publications](#): Clinical evidence summaries and rapid reviews on various topics.

LitCovid: [curated literature hub](#) for tracking up-to-date scientific information about COVID-19. It is the most comprehensive resource on the subject, providing a central access a large number of relevant articles in PubMed.

US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [COVID-19 Science Updates](#) providing brief summaries of new COVID-19-related studies on many topics, including epidemiology, clinical treatment and management, laboratory science, and modeling. The summaries are released every Tuesday and Friday.

VA-ESP COVID-19 Reviews: [U.S. Veterans' Affairs \(VA\) Evidence Synthesis Program](#) - Inventory of living systematic reviews and 'rapid reviews', with a flag for living reviews and for reviews meeting minimum quality standards

Wolters Kluwer: [Clinical effectiveness COVID-19 Resources Available to All](#). View a categorized collection of all UpToDate COVID-19 content including clinical topics, algorithms, patient education and society guideline links.

World Health Organization: [COVID-19 Global literature on coronavirus disease](#). Literature database.