



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

COVID-19 Digest
20 May 2021

ECDC Outputs

Recent publications

Overview of EU/EEA country recommendations on COVID-19 vaccination with Vaxzevria, and a scoping review of evidence to guide decision-making. Technical Report – 18 May [Read more »](#)

Public health impact of SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern: scoping review protocol. Technical Report – 18 May [Read more »](#)

Threat Assessment Brief: Emergence of SARS-CoV-2 B.1.617 variants in India and situation in the EU/EEA. Risk Assessment – 11 May [Read more »](#)

Considerations on the use of rapid antigen detection (including self-) tests for SARS-CoV-2 in occupational settings. Technical Report – 6 May [Read more »](#)

Overview of the implementation of COVID-19 vaccination strategies and vaccine deployment plans in the EU/EEA. Technical Report – 6 May [Read more »](#)

Considerations for the use of saliva as sample material for COVID-19 testing. Technical Report – 3 May [Read more »](#)

Guidance for representative and targeted genomic SARS-CoV-2 monitoring. Technical Report – 3 May [Read more »](#)

Objectives of vaccination strategies against COVID-19. Technical Report – 23 April [Read more »](#)

All ECDC publications on scientific advice on coronavirus are published. [Read more »](#)

Translated guidance and infographics on COVID-19. Available in 26 languages. [Read more »](#)

Situation updates on COVID-19

Weekly 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 »](#)

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

Weekly 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). [Read more »](#)

Weekly surveillance report on COVID-19: Includes information on severity and risk groups most affected for the EU/EEA, as well as information on The European Surveillance System (TESSy) data

quality and descriptions about national surveillance systems. [Read more »](#)

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 »](#)

Vaccine roll-out overview report: This report complements the Vaccine tracker and provides an overview of the progress in the roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines in adults (aged 18 years and above) across EU/EEA Member States, incl. vaccine doses distributed and administered. [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. These maps are published every Thursday based on a number of different indicators. [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 »](#)

ECDC releases new 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»](#)

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 »](#)

Online micro learning activities on non-pharmaceutical countermeasures in relation to COVID-19. E-learning course. 20 Feb 2020 – 30 June 2021. [Read more »](#)

Other ECDC Outputs

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

ECDC case definition for COVID-19. [Read more »](#)

Find the latest evidence on:

Several sections have recently been updated

- [Coronaviruses](#)
- [Risk factors and risk groups](#)
- [Transmission of COVID-19](#)
- [COVID-19 infection](#)
- [Clinical characteristics of COVID-19](#)
- [Diagnostic testing and screening for SARS-CoV-2](#)
- [Immune responses and immunity to SARS-CoV-2](#)
- [Vaccines and treatment of COVID-19](#)

Surveillance definitions for COVID-19. High risk exposure/close contact, transmission status, death due to COVID-19. [Read more »](#)

Testing strategies for SARS-CoV-2 - Patients requiring diagnostic testing. [Read more »](#)

Preparedness for COVID-19 – Publications and guidance for preparedness planning. [Read more »](#)

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

Laboratory support for COVID-19 in the EU/EEA – Testing for SARS-CoV-2 virus, shortages, types and storage of specimens, specimen shipping etc. [Read more »](#)

Q & A on COVID-19 – Questions and answers. [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 a qualitative assessment or critical appraisal of the evidence.

1. National Swedish survey showed that child health services and routine immunisation programmes were resilient during the early COVID-19 pandemic *Acta Paediatr* [Read more »](#)
2. Characterisation of asymptomatic patients and efficacy of preventive measures for SARS-CoV-2 infection in a large population of Southern Italy: a cohort study *BMJ Open* [Read more »](#)
3. Effectiveness of the Pfizer-BioNTech and Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccines on covid-19 related symptoms, hospital admissions, and mortality in older adults in England: test negative case-control study *BMJ* [Read more »](#)
4. SARS-CoV-2 transmission in educational settings during an early summer epidemic wave in Luxembourg, 2020 *BMC Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
5. Trends over time in the risk of adverse outcomes among patients with SARS-CoV-2 infection *Clin Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
6. The effectiveness of the TWO-DOSE BNT162b2 vaccine: analysis of real-world data *Clin Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
7. BNT162b2 mRNA vaccination did not prevent an outbreak of SARS COV-2 variant 501Y.V2 in an elderly nursing home but reduced transmission and disease severity *Clin Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
8. Adverse pregnancy outcomes, maternal complications, and severe illness among U.S. delivery hospitalizations with and without a COVID-19 diagnosis *Clin Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)

- [more »](#)
9. Characteristics of patients discharged and readmitted after COVID-19 hospitalisation within a large integrated health system in the United States *Infect Dis (Lond)* [Read more »](#)
 10. Characterisation of asymptomatic patients and efficacy of preventive measures for SARS-CoV-2 infection in a large population of Southern Italy: a cohort study *Int J Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
 11. Comparative Analysis of Antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 between Asymptomatic and Convalescent Patients *iScience* [Read more »](#)
 12. Association Between Vaccination With BNT162b2 and Incidence of Symptomatic and Asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infections Among Health Care Workers *JAMA* [Read more »](#)
 13. Asymptomatic and Symptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infections After BNT162b2 Vaccination in a Routinely Screened Workforce *JAMA* [Read more »](#)
 14. Effectiveness of BNT162b2 vaccine against the B.1.1.7 variant of SARS-CoV-2 among healthcare workers in Brescia, Italy *J Infect* [Read more »](#)
 15. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19): A Systematic Review of 133 Children Presented with Kawasaki-like Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome *J Med Virol* [Read more »](#)
 16. Post-acute effects of SARS-CoV-2 infection in individuals not requiring hospital admission: a Danish population-based cohort study *Lancet Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
 17. Effects of different types of written vaccination information on COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in the UK (OCEANS-III): a single-blind, parallel-group, randomised controlled trial *Lancet Public Health* [Read more »](#)
 18. Changes in COVID-19 in-hospital mortality in hospitalised adults in England over the first seven months of the pandemic: An observational study using administrative data *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
 19. Factors associated with deaths due to COVID-19 versus other causes: population-based cohort analysis of UK primary care data and linked national death registrations within the OpenSAFELY platform *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
 20. SARS-CoV-2 transmission risk from asymptomatic carriers: Results from a mass screening programme in Luxembourg *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
 21. Prevalence of antibody positivity to SARS-CoV-2 following the first peak of infection in England: Serial cross-sectional studies of 365,000 adults *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
 22. Changes in in-hospital mortality in the first wave of COVID-19: a multicentre prospective observational cohort study using the WHO Clinical Characterisation Protocol UK *Lancet Respir Med* [Read more »](#)
 23. Mortality trends among hospitalised COVID-19 patients in Sweden: A nationwide observational cohort study *Lancet Respir Med* [Read more »](#)
 24. Predicting patients with false negative SARS-CoV-2 testing at hospital admission: A retrospective multi-center study *PLoS One* [Read more »](#)
 25. The incidence, characteristics and outcomes of pregnant women hospitalized with symptomatic and asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 infection in the UK from March to September 2020: A national cohort study using the UK Obstetric Surveillance System (UKOSS) *PLoS One* [Read more »](#)
 26. Prevalence and outcomes of co-infection and superinfection with SARS-CoV-2 and other pathogens: A systematic review and meta-analysis *PLoS One* [Read more »](#)
 27. Incubation period of COVID-19: A systematic review and meta-analysis *Rev Clin Esp (Barc)* [Read more »](#)
 28. Emergence and Spread of SARS-CoV-2 Lineages B.1.1.7 and P.1 in Italy *Viruses* [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). Research Platform. [Read more »](#)

European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). COVID-19 measures. [Read more »](#)

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

European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addition (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 »](#)

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

COVID-19 information pages of EU/EEA Member States



[Austria »](#)

[Belgium »](#)

[Bulgaria »](#)

[Croatia »](#)

[Cyprus »](#)



[Germany »](#)

[Greece »](#)

[Hungary »](#)

[Iceland »](#)

[Ireland »](#)



[Malta »](#)

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[Luxembourg »](#)



[Romania »](#)

[Slovakia »](#)

[Slovenia »](#)

[Spain »](#)

[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.

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.

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 »](#)

theBMJ: [Drug treatments for covid-19](#): living systematic review and network meta-analysis

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 »](#)

COVID-AMR: [Peer-reviewed literature](#) on secondary infections, antibiotic chemotherapy and AMR in the context of COVID-19.

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: [COVID-19 Publications](#): Clinical evidence summaries and rapid reviews on various different 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. The articles are updated daily and are further categorized by different research topics and geographic locations for improved access.

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 Recourses Available to All](#). View a categorized collection of all UpToDate COVID-19 content including clinical topics, algorithms, patient education and society guideline links.