



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

COVID-19 Digest  
23 February 2023

## ECDC Outputs

### Recent publications (no new publications since the last digest)

**Considerations for infection prevention and control practices in relation to respiratory viral infections in healthcare settings** Guidance – 06 Feb [Read more »](#)

**Protocol for a COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness study using health data registries** Protocol – 30 Jan [Read more »](#)

**Core protocol for ECDC studies of COVID-19 vaccine effectiveness against hospitalisation with Severe Acute Respiratory Infection, laboratory-confirmed with SARS-CoV-2 or with seasonal influenza - Version 2.0** Protocol – 30 Jan [Read more »](#)

**Threat Assessment Brief: Implications for the EU/EEA of the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron XBB.1.5 sub-lineage** Risk assessment – 13 Jan [Read more »](#)

**Pilot study outline for targeted genomic surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 in travellers in response to a worsening or unknown epidemiological situation in a third country** 13 Jan [Read more »](#)

**Guidelines in response to the worsening of the epidemiological situation - Addendum to the Aviation Health Safety Protocol** 11 Jan [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 »](#)

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

**Data on SARS-CoV-2 variants in the EU/EEA.** The downloadable data file contains information about the volume of COVID-19 sequencing, the number and percentage distribution of variants of concern (VOC) by week and country. [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 »](#)

**Note that the following pages are no longer updated. A COVID-19 fact sheet will be published in the first quarter of 2023:**

- [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. Hospital Outcomes of Community-Acquired SARS-CoV-2 Omicron Variant Infection Compared With Influenza Infection in Switzerland *JAMA Netw Open* [Read more »](#)
2. Characterisation of SARS-CoV-2 variants in Beijing during 2022: an epidemiological and phylogenetic analysis *Lancet* [Read more »](#)
3. Comparing SARS-CoV-2 variants among children and adolescents in Germany: relative risk of COVID-19-related hospitalization, ICU admission and mortality *Infection* [Read more »](#)
4. National and regional prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies in primary and secondary

- school children in England: the School Infection Survey, a national open cohort study, November 2021 *J Infect* [Read more »](#)
5. Estimating the share of SARS-CoV-2-immunologically naïve individuals in Germany up to June 2022 *Epidemiol Infect* [Read more »](#)
  6. Incidence, Risk, and Severity of SARS-CoV-2 Reinfections in Children and Adolescents Between March 2020 and July 2022 in Serbia *JAMA Netw Open* [Read more »](#)
  7. Epidemiological impacts of the NHS COVID-19 app in England and Wales throughout its first year *Nat Commun* [Read more »](#)
  8. Resistance of Omicron subvariants BA.2.75.2, BA.4.6, and BQ.1.1 to neutralizing antibodies *Nat Commun* [Read more »](#)
  9. Sustained increases in antibiotic prescriptions per primary care consultation for upper respiratory tract infections in England during the COVID-19 pandemic *JAC Antimicrob Resist* [Read more »](#)
  10. Higher risk of SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA.4/5 infection than of BA.2 infection after previous BA.1 infection, the Netherlands, 2 May to 24 July 2022 *Euro Surveill* [Read more »](#)
  11. Effectiveness of bivalent mRNA booster vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 Omicron infection, the Netherlands, September to December 2022 *Euro Surveill* [Read more »](#)
  12. Quantifying the effect of delaying the second COVID-19 vaccine dose in England: a mathematical modelling study *Lancet Public Health* [Read more »](#)
  13. The social and socio-political embeddedness of COVID-19 vaccination decision-making: A five-country qualitative interview study from Europe *Vaccine* [Read more »](#)
  14. SARS-COV-2 excretion and maternal-fetal transmission: Virological data of French prospective multi-center cohort study COVIPREG during the first wave *J Gynecol Obstet Hum Reprod* [Read more »](#)
  15. Multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children and SARS-CoV-2 variants: a two-year ambispective multicentric cohort study in Catalonia, Spain *Eur J Pediatr* [Read more »](#)
  16. Incidence and presentation of new-onset type 1 diabetes in children and adolescents from Germany during the COVID-19 pandemic 2020 and 2021: Current data from the DPV Registry *Diabetes Res Clin Pract* [Read more »](#)
  17. Trends and Cyclic Variation in the Incidence of Childhood Type 1 Diabetes in Two Italian Regions Over 33 Years and During The Covid-19 Pandemic *Diabetes Obes Metab* [Read more »](#)
  18. Safety and effectiveness of monovalent COVID-19 mRNA vaccination and risk factors for hospitalisation caused by the omicron variant in 0.8 million adolescents: A nationwide cohort study in Sweden *PLoS Med* [Read more »](#)
  19. Monitoring of SARS-CoV-2 concentration and circulation of variants of concern in wastewater of Leuven, Belgium *J Med Virol* [Read more »](#)
  20. Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 variants in October-November 2022 in Italy: Detection of XBB.1, BA.2.75 and rapid spread of the BQ.1 lineage *Sci Total Environ* [Read more »](#)
  21. New Postmortem Perspective on Emerging SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern, Germany *Emerg Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
  22. Post COVID-19 condition after Wildtype, Delta, and Omicron SARS-CoV-2 infection and prior vaccination: Pooled analysis of two population-based cohorts *PLoS One* [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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[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. (*NOTE: last update Feb 2022, no longer updated*)

**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

**WHO living guidelines** on [therapeutics](#), [drugs to prevent COVID-19](#) and [clinical management of COVID-19 patients](#)

**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 »](#) (NOTE: last update April 2021)

## 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 »](#) (NOTE: last update Jan 2022, no longer updated)

**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. (NOTE: last update Dec 2021, no longer updated)

**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.