

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

COVID-19 Digest
23 December 2021

ECDC Outputs

Recent publications

Methods for the detection and characterisation of SARS-CoV-2 variants – first update Technical report – 20 Dec [Read more »](#)

Rapid assessment of antigenic characterisation capability and capacity for SARS-CoV-2 viruses in EU/EEA laboratories Technical report – 20 Dec [Read more »](#)

Rapid Risk Assessment: Assessment of the further emergence of the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron VOC in the context of the ongoing Delta transmission in the EU/EEA, 18th update Risk Assessment – 15 Dec [Read more »](#)

Threat Assessment Brief: Implications of the further emergence and spread of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529 variant of concern (Omicron) for the EU/EEA – first update Risk Assessment – 02 Dec [Read more »](#)

Interim public health considerations for COVID-19 vaccination of children aged 5-11 years Technical report – 01 Dec [Read more »](#)

Surveillance of COVID-19 in long-term care facilities in the EU/EEA Technical report – 29 Nov [Read more »](#)

Threat Assessment Brief: Implications of the emergence and spread of the SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.529 variant of concern (Omicron) for the EU/EEA Risk Assessment – 26 Nov [Read more »](#)

Rapid Risk Assessment: Assessment of the current SARS-CoV-2 epidemiological situation in the EU/EEA, projections for the end-of-year festive season and strategies for response, 17th update Risk Assessment – 24 Nov [Read more »](#)

All ECDC scientific advice on coronavirus [Read more »](#)

Situation updates on COVID-19

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

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 »](#)

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. [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:

- [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](#)
- [Treatment and pharmaceutical prophylaxis](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccines](#)

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 »](#)

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 an additional qualitative assessment or critical appraisal of the evidence by ECDC.

1. Neutralisation of the SARS-CoV-2 Delta variant sub-lineages AY.4.2 and B.1.617.2 with the mutation E484K by Comirnaty (BNT162b2 mRNA) vaccine-elicited sera, Denmark, 1 to 26 November 2021 *Eurosurveillance* [Read more »](#)
2. Increasing risk of breakthrough COVID-19 in outbreaks with high attack rates in European long-term care facilities, July to October 2021 *Eurosurveillance* [Read more »](#)
3. Ratio of asymptomatic COVID-19 cases among ascertained SARS-CoV-2 infections in different regions and population groups in 2020: a systematic review and meta-analysis including 130 123 infections from 241 studies *BMJ Open* [Read more »](#)
4. Global Percentage of Asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infections Among the Tested Population and Individuals with Confirmed COVID-19 Diagnosis: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis *JAMA Netw Open* [Read more »](#)
5. Decline in Pneumococcal Disease in Young Children during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Israel Associated with Suppression of seasonal Respiratory Viruses, despite Persistent Pneumococcal Carriage: A Prospective Cohort Study *Clin Infect Dis* [Read more »](#)
6. Characteristics and determinants of population acceptance of COVID-19 digital contact tracing: a systematic review *Acta Biomed* [Read more »](#)
7. Public health effectiveness of digital contact tracing in the COVID-19 pandemic: A systematic review of available data *Acta Biomed* [Read more »](#)
8. COVID-19 trends and severity among symptomatic children aged 0–17 years in 10 European Union countries, 3 August 2020 to 3 October 2021 *Eurosurveillance* [Read more »](#)
9. Epidemiological characterisation of the first 785 SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant cases in Denmark, December 2021 *Eurosurveillance* [Read more »](#)

10. Outbreak caused by the SARS-CoV-2 Omicron variant in Norway, November to December 2021 *Eurosurveillance* [Read more »](#)
11. Vaccine effectiveness against SARS-CoV-2 infection, hospitalization, and death when combining a first dose ChAdOx1 vaccine with a subsequent mRNA vaccine in Denmark: A nationwide population-based cohort study *PLoS Med* [Read more »](#)
12. Lockdown and non-COVID-19 deaths: cause-specific mortality during the first wave of the 2020 pandemic in Norway: a population-based register study *BMJ Open* [Read more »](#)
13. Monitoring populations at increased risk for SARS-CoV-2 infection in the community using population-level demographic and behavioural surveillance *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
14. Risk of venous thrombotic events and thrombocytopenia in sequential time periods after ChAdOx1 and BNT162b2 COVID-19 vaccines: A national cohort study in England *Lancet Reg Health Eur* [Read more »](#)
15. Impact of the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic on routine immunisation services: evidence of disruption and recovery from 170 countries and territories *Lancet Glob Health* [Read more »](#)
16. A clinical case definition of post-COVID-19 condition by a Delphi consensus *Lancet Infect Dis* [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 »](#)

[Finland »](#)

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[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.

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.

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

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.