



**COVID-19 and HIV**  
**Latest WHO updates and guidance**  
**Update 3 April 2020**

**Meg Doherty, MD, PhD, MPH - Director**

**WHO Department of Global HIV, Hepatitis and Sexually Transmitted Infection Programmes**

# Recapping the last 3 months as we start month 4 ...

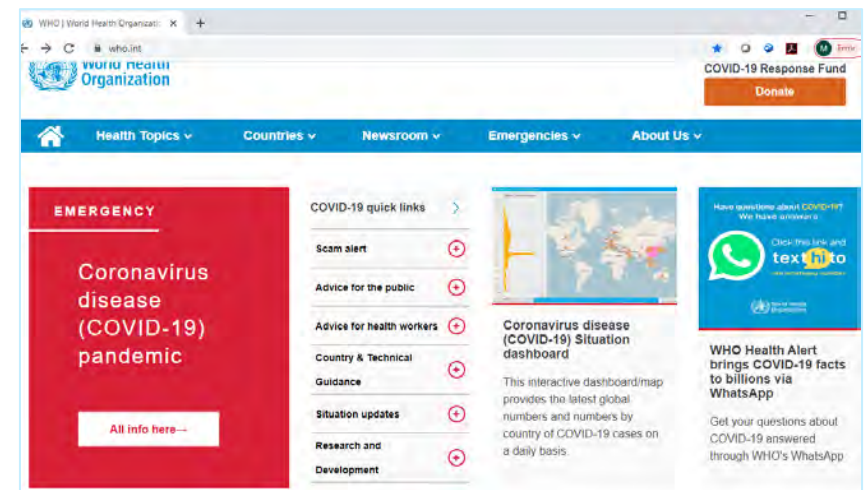
- A pneumonia of unknown cause detected in Wuhan, China was first reported to the WHO Country Office in China on 31 December 2019
- WHO is working 24/7 to analyze data, provide advice, coordinate with partners, help countries prepare, increase supplies and manage expert networks
- The outbreak was declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern on 30 January 2020
- On 11 February 2020, WHO announced a name for the new coronavirus disease: COVID-19
- **By 2 April 2020, more than 900 306 confirmed cases reported and 45 692 deaths in 205 countries**

Sharing real-time updates and technical advice:

[www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

And guidance documents:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>



# Countries, areas or territories with COVID-19 cases reported in the last 7 days

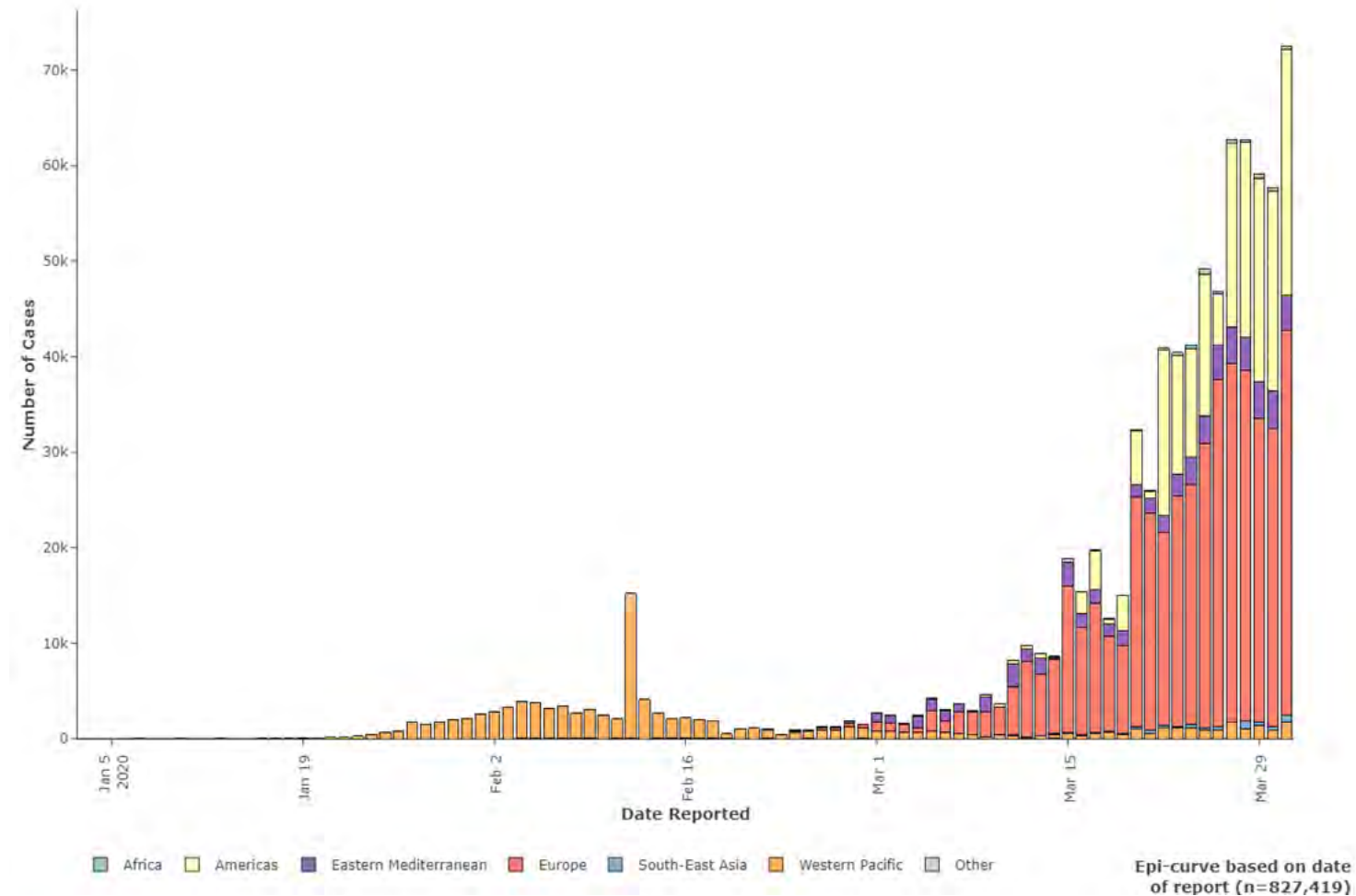
(From 27 March 2020, 10:00AM to 02 April 2020, 10:00AM (CET))



[1] All references to Kosovo in this document should be understood to be in the context of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 [1999].

Number of cases of Serbia and Kosovo (UNSCR 1244, 1999) have been aggregated for visualization purposes.

# Current Situation (As of 01 Apr, 18H Geneva Time)



## Between 31 Dec 2019 - 01 Apr 2020

- **827,419 cases** from 205 countries/states/territories and 1 international conveyance
- **40,777 deaths** from 127 countries/states/territories and 1 international conveyance

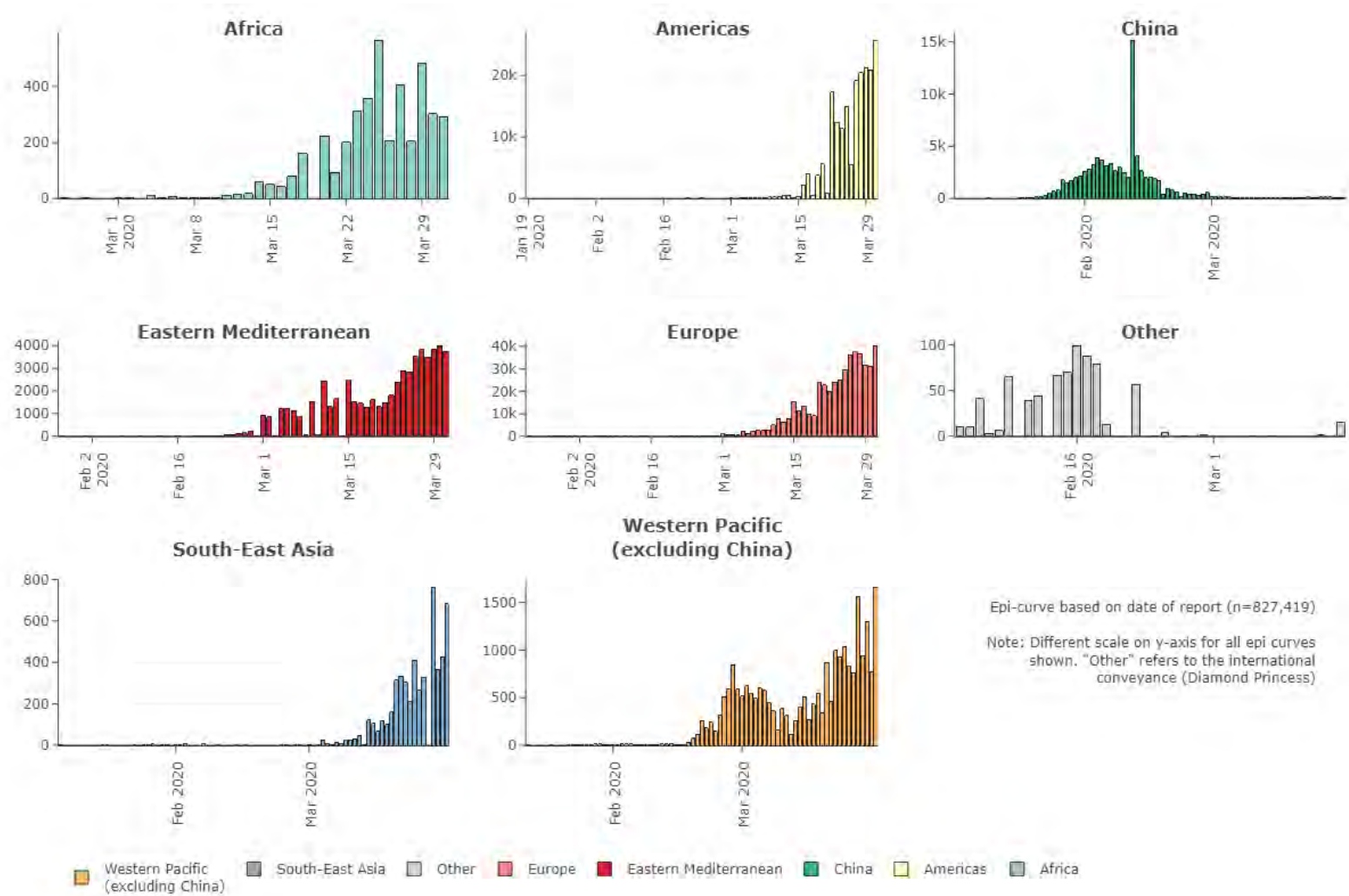
10 countries with highest number of cumulative cases:

- **United States of America (163199)**
- **Italy (105792)**
- **Spain (94417)**
- China (82638)
- **Germany (67366)**
- **France (51477)**
- **Iran (Islamic Republic of) (47593)**
- **The United Kingdom (25154)**
- Switzerland (16108)
- **Turkey (13531)**

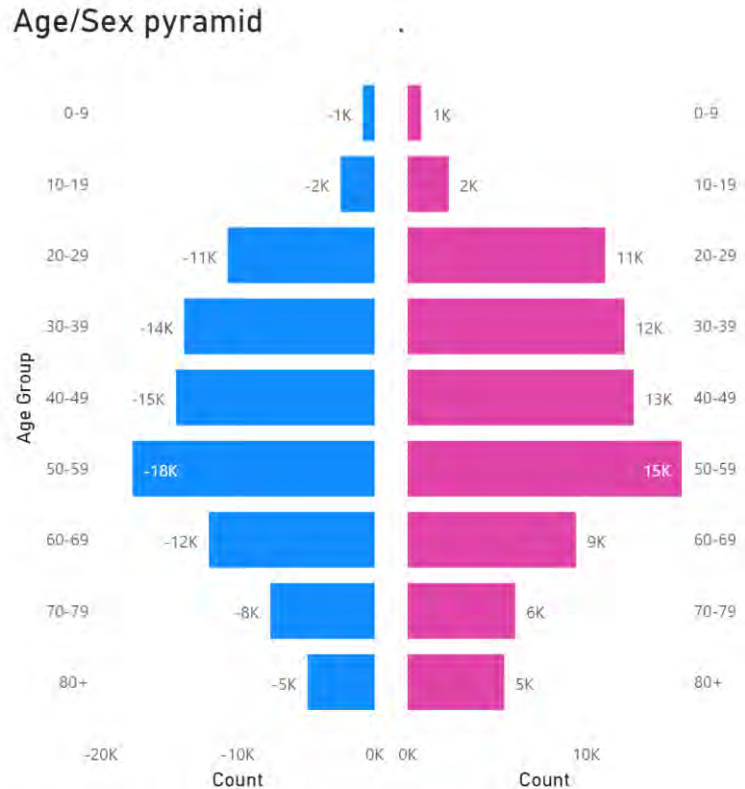
10 countries with most reported number of cases in past 24 hours:

- **United States of America (22559)**
- **Spain (9222)**
- **France (7500)**
- **Germany (5453)**
- **Italy (4053)**
- **The United Kingdom (3009)**
- **Iran (Islamic Republic of) (2987)**
- **Turkey (2704)**
- Canada (1378)
- Portugal (1035)

# Number of confirmed cases notified under IHR or from official government sources by WHO region, for China, and International Conveyance (Diamond Princess) as of 01 Apr 18H



# Total # of cases with sex and age information (n=159 504)

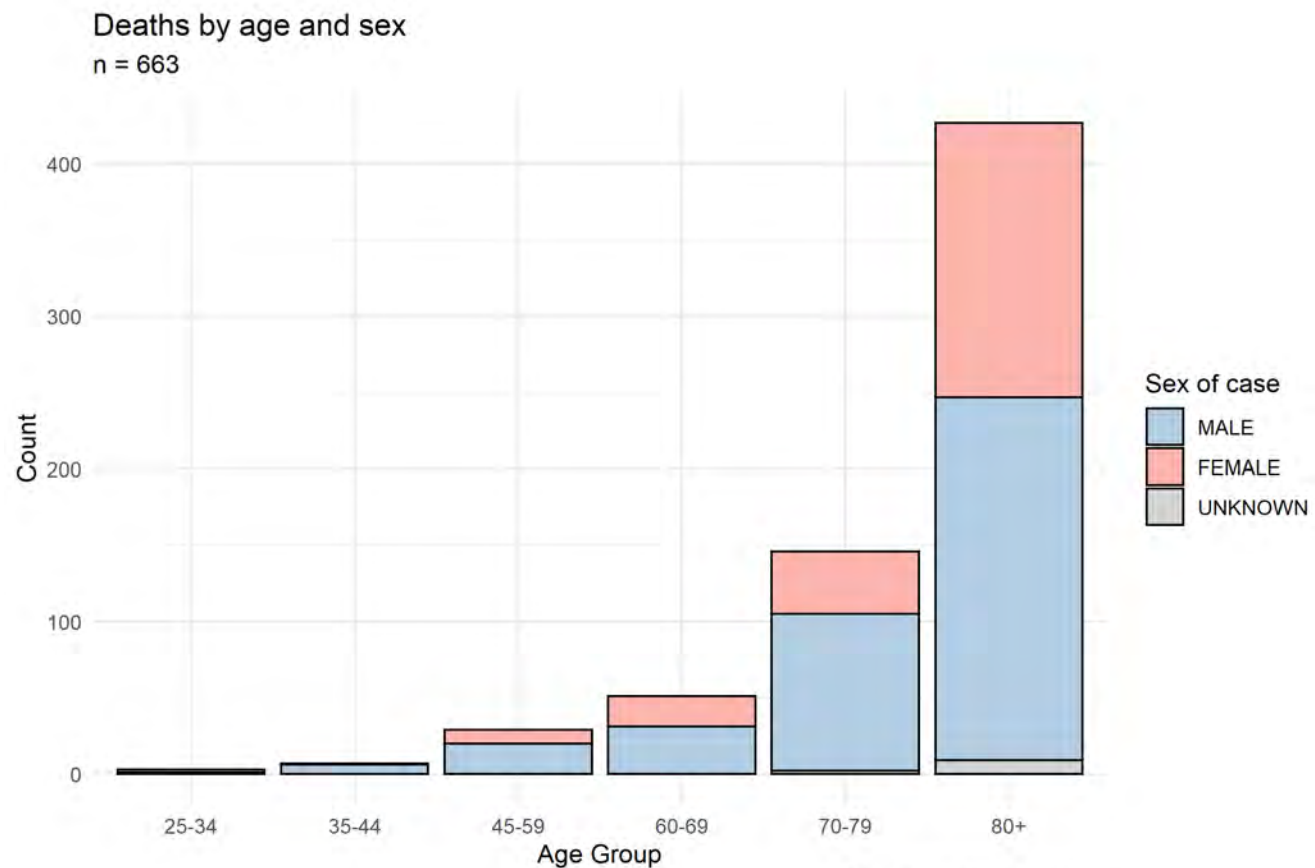


Data cleaning are ongoing and a work in progress, please interpret with caution

Sex	Percentage
<b>Female</b>	47%
<b>Male</b>	52%
<b>Unknown</b>	1%

Age	Percentage
<b>0-9</b>	1.0%
<b>10-19</b>	2.9%
<b>20-29</b>	13.4%
<b>30-39</b>	16.2%
<b>40-49</b>	17.0%
<b>50-59</b>	20.7%
<b>60-69</b>	13.5%
<b>70-79</b>	8.6%
<b>80 +</b>	6.6%

# Total # of recorded deaths by sex and age group



Female: 253 (38.1%)  
Male: 499 (60.2%)

Source: XMART submissions

Note: Most death reports are from EURO Member States

# Global COVID-19 Strategy (as of 17 March – Strategy being updated)

## Goal

- To save lives, minimize disruption of societies, and protect economies

## The Four Things that Every Country Must Do

- Prepare and Be Ready
- Detect, Protect & Treat
- Reduce and Suppress Transmission
- Learn, Innovate, Improve and Improve

## WHO has defined four transmission scenarios 4Cs for COVID-19:

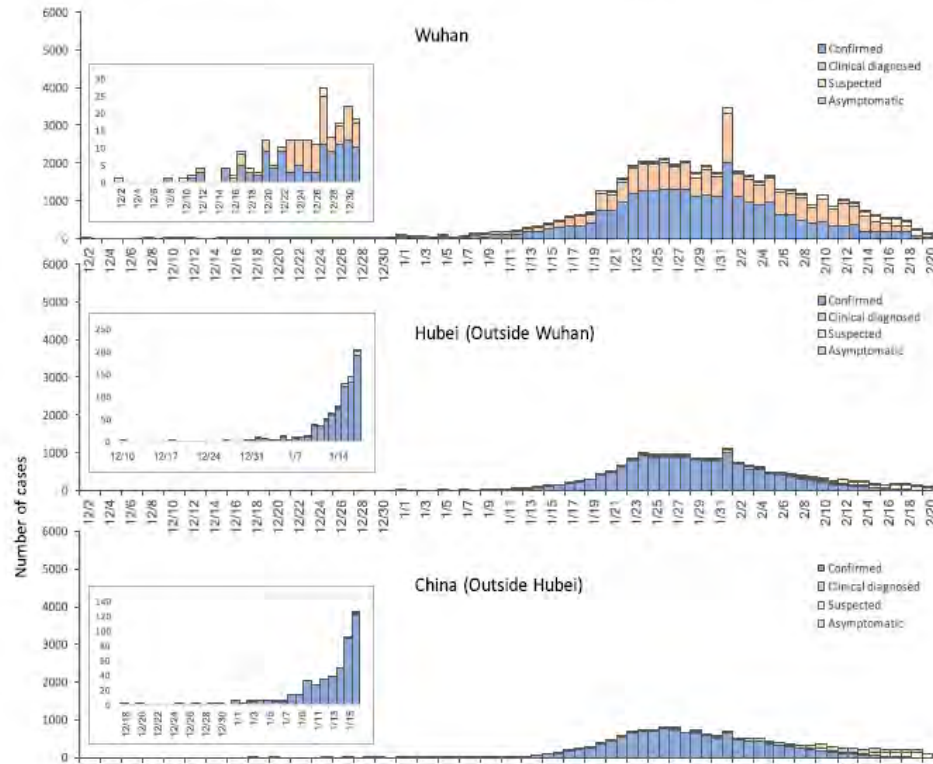
1. Countries with no cases (No cases);
2. Countries with 1 or more cases, imported or locally detected (Sporadic cases);
3. Countries experiencing cases clusters in time, geographic location and/or common exposure (Clusters of cases);
4. Countries experiencing larger outbreaks of local transmission (Community transmission).



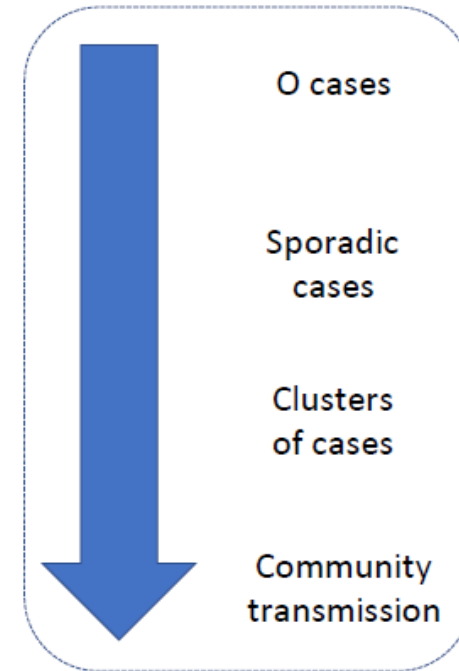
# What we can learn from the China response

China's differentiated approach averted 100,000s of cases

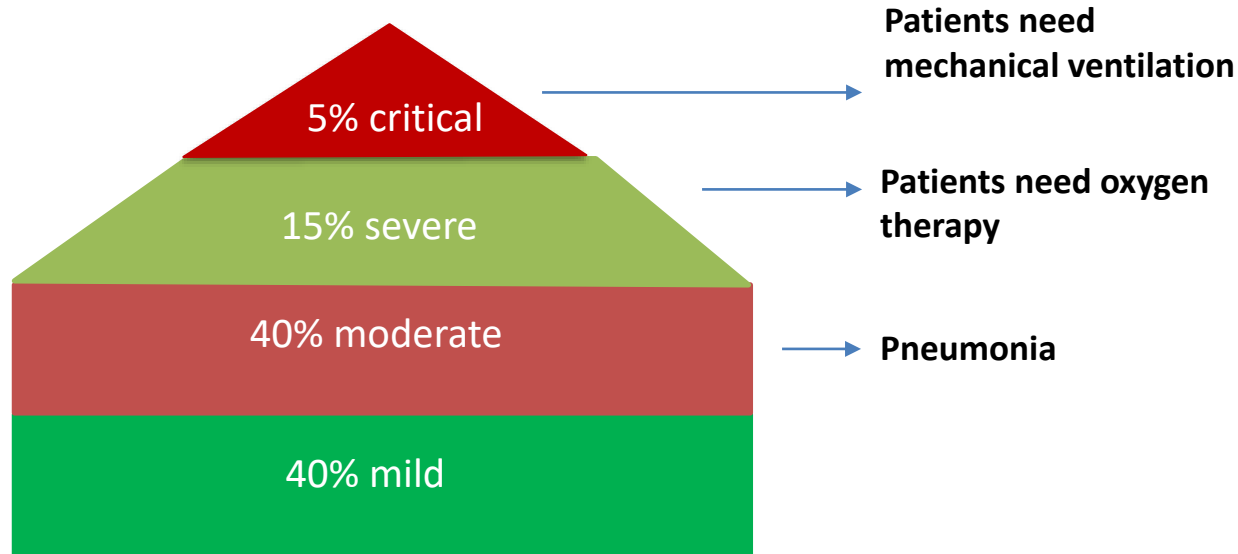
China is using fundamental public health measures...



- Universal population measures
- Case isolation & management
- Close contact quarantine
- Suspension of public gatherings
- Movement restrictions



# Severity profile of COVID-19



There are little data from populations with high prevalence of HIV, malnutrition etc.

Hypothetical estimate of numbers requiring hospitalization based on current size of outbreak:

Country	Number of reported cases	20% (# people requiring oxygen & ventilation)
Italy	27,980	5,596
Iran	14,991	2,998
Spain	9,942	1,988
Republic of Korea	8,320	1,664
Germany	7,272	1,454

Based on the following assumption: all severe (15%) and critical cases (5%) require hospitalization. These numbers represent the current situation (as of 17.03.2020) which will change as more cases are confirmed.

<https://www.who.int/teams/risk-communication>



Home Health Topics Countries Newsroom

EPI-WIN: WHO information network for epidemics

### Audiences



#### Individuals and communities

Information on COVID-19; How people can protect themselves and others; Updates on the evolving situation.



#### Travel & Tourism Sector

Guidance and resources for the travel and tourism sectors (*Balancing national travel restrictions and safety of passengers and staff*).



## Epidemiological insights

- At diagnosis, approximately **80% of cases are mild/moderate**; 15% severe; 5% critical
- Disease progression: approx. 10-15% of mild/moderate cases become severe, and approximately 15-20% of severe cases become critical
- Average times:
  - from exposure to symptom onset is 5-6 days after infection;
  - from symptoms to recovery for mild cases is 2 weeks;
  - from symptoms to recovery for severe cases is 3-6 weeks;
  - from symptoms onset to death is from 1 week (critical) to 2-8 weeks.
- COVID-19 much less frequent in children than adults; and children tend to have milder disease



## Q&A on COVID-19, HIV and antiretrovirals

24 March 2020 | Q&A

---

Are people living with HIV at increased risk of being infected with the virus that causes COVID-19?



---

Can antiretrovirals be used to treat COVID-19?



---

Can antiretrovirals be used to prevent COVID-19 infection?



---

What studies on treatment and prevention of COVID-19 with antiretrovirals are being planned?



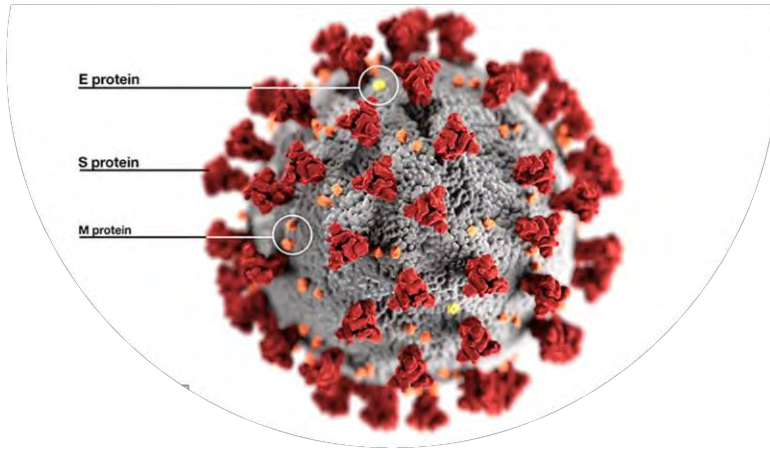
---

What is WHO's position on the use of antiretrovirals for the treatment of COVID-19?

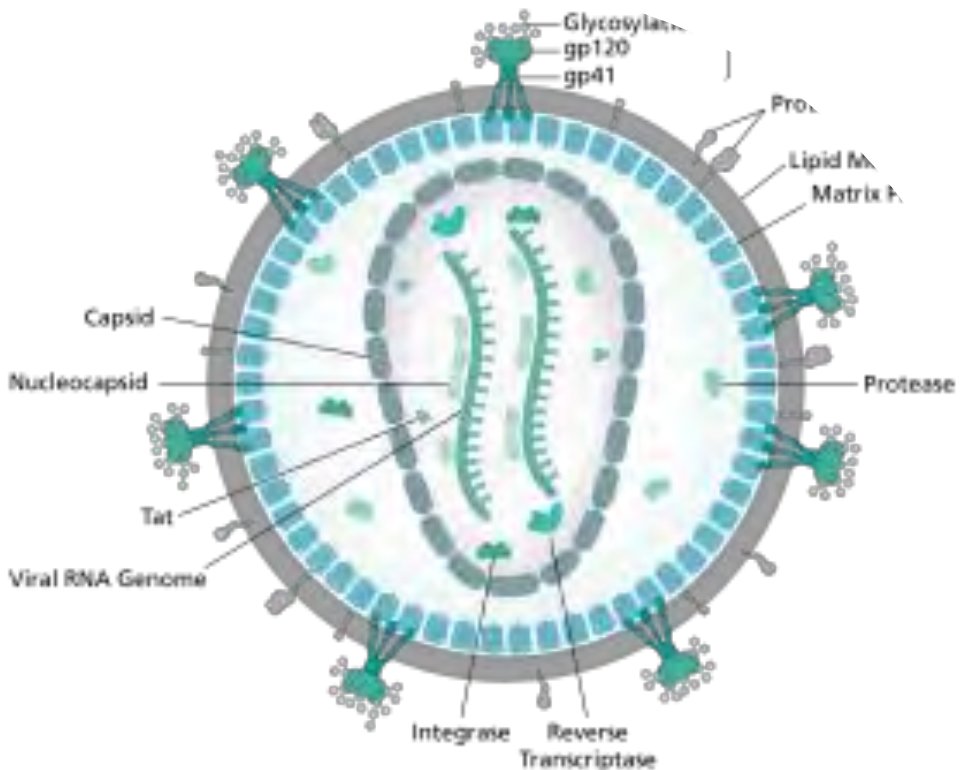


<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/q-a-on-covid-19-hiv-and-antiretrovirals>

# COVID-19 and HIV



- Patients with severe immunodeficiency usually have high risk of complications with any infectious disease
- Six reports of HIV-CoVs co-infections (**HIV/SARS - Wong, 2004; HIV/MERS - Salahoub, 2015; HIV/COVID19 - Zhu, 2020; Guo, 2020; Joob, 2020**)
- Mild moderate CoV disease despite severe immunodeficiency – all cases recovered
- PLHIV low CD4 & COVID similar outcomes to non-PLHIV (**Guo, 2020**)
- Defective cellular immunity in HIV infection could paradoxically be a protective factor?
- Potential therapeutic role of HIV protease inhibitors?
- Lack of SARS in AIDS patients hospitalized together (**Chan, 2003**)
- None of 19 PLHIV hospitalized at the same ward with SARS patients in a hospital in China got infected, despite many HCWs caring both groups got SARS-CoV - due to Protective effect of ARVs?



# Consideration of Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy in the Prevention and Treatment of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Lack of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in 19 AIDS Patients Hospitalized Together

To the Editor  
Severe  
(SARS)

cal files of each HIV-infected/AIDS patient for information regarding ward distribution, ventilation, isolation measures, CD4<sup>+</sup> T cell counts, opportunistic infections, and treatment regimens, including highly active antiretroviral therapy.

correct diagnosis was established. Of the 19 AIDS patients, 15 stayed for >1 month during the period of investigation. All AIDS patients had opportunistic infections, and most had very low CD4<sup>+</sup> T cell counts (<100/L, n=10).

Journal of Hospital Infection 101 (2019) 42–46

Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



Journal of Hospital Infection

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jhin](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jhin)



Short report

### Post-exposure prophylaxis for Middle East respiratory syndrome in healthcare workers

S.Y. Park<sup>a</sup>, J.S. Yoo<sup>f</sup>, J.S. E

JAMA | Original Investigation

## Epidemiologic Features and Clinical Course of Patients Infected With SARS-CoV-2 in Singapore

Barnaby Edward Young, MB, BChir; Sean Wei Xiang Ong, MBBS; Shtrin Kalimuddin, MPH; Jenny G. Low, MPH; Seow Yen Tan, MBBS; Jiashen Loh, MBBS; Oon-Tek Ng, MPH; Kallivar Marimuthu, MBBS; Li Wei Ang, Msc; Tze Minn Mak, PhD; Sok Kiang Lau, PhD; Danielle E. Anderson, PhD; Kian Sing Chan, MBBS; Thean Yen Tan, MBBCh; Tong Yong Ng, MBBS; Lin Cul, PhD; Zubaidah Said, MSc; Lalitha Kurupatham, MPH; Mark H-Cheng Chen, PhD; Monica Chan, BMBS; Shawn Vasoo, MBBS; Lin-Fa Wang, PhD; Boon Huan Tan, PhD; Raymond Tzer Pin Lin, MBBS; Vernon Jian Ming Lee, PhD; Yee-Sin Leo, MPH; David Chien Lye, MBBS; for the Singapore 2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak Research Team

1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recruiting NEW	Evaluation of Ganovo Combined With Ritonavir in the Treatment of Novel Coronavirus Infection	• 2019-nCoV Pneumonia	• Drug: Ganovo+ritonavir with or without interferon atomization • Drug: Pegasys • Drug: Novaferon atomization (and 2 more...)
2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recruiting NEW	Lopinavir, Ritonavir, Remdesivir and ...	• 2019-nCoV Pneumonia	• Drug: Lopinavir/ritonavir
3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not yet recruiting NEW	Ritonavir	• 2019-nCoV Pneumonia	• Drug: Ritonavir
4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not yet recruiting NEW	A Prospective, Randomized Controlled Clinical Study of Antiviral Therapy in the 2019-nCoV Pneumonia	• 2019-nCoV Pneumonia	• Drug: Abidol hydrochloride • Drug: Oseltamivir • Drug: Lopinavir/ritonavir

**25 registered trials**  
19 for LPV/r  
1 LPV  
1 Rit  
1 DRV/COB  
1 TAFI

# Efficacy and safety of ARVs for the treatment and prevention of SARS, MERS or COVID-19

## Use of ARV as treatment for CoV infections

- 22 observational studies on the use of ARV drugs (most studies using **LPV/r** as treatment).
  - 20 studies reporting treatment outcomes, 3 studies with SARS, 6 studies with MERS, 11 studies with COVID-19
- Of 227 patients given LPV/r, 2 deaths were reported by 22 obs studies. Timing, duration and dose of treatment varied, and several studies provided co-interventions
- The certainty of the evidence is low across all 3 diseases: Small sample size, only two studies provided comparative outcomes (one using historical controls) and none were randomized.
- **1 RCT: patients with severe COVID-19 receive LPV/r (400mg/100mg twice a day) vs SoC for 14 days: 28 day mortality was numerically lower in the LPV/r group (14/99) compared to the control group (25/100) but this difference was not statistically significant.**



## Use of ARV as Prevention (PEP) for CoV infections

- 2 studies reported a possible protective effect of LPV/r as post-exposure prophylaxis (SARS and MERS). The certainty of the evidence was very low due to uncertainty and limited sample size.

## 25 registered trials planning to assess the safety and efficacy of ARVs for the treatment of coronavirus infection (23 for the treatment of COVID-19).

- 19 assessing LPV/r, 1 assessing upboosted LPV, 1 assessing ritonavir, 1 darunavir and cobicistat, 1 assessing TAF



# LPV/r in patients with severe COVID-19

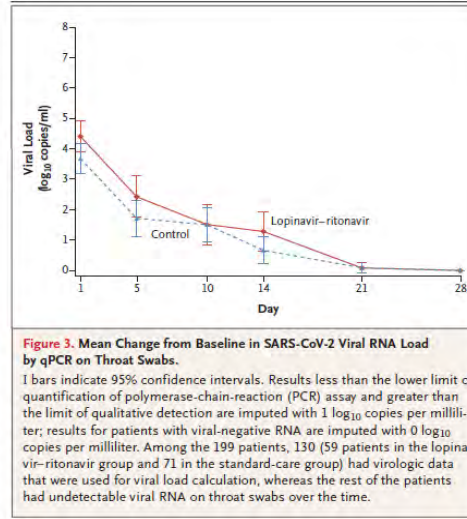
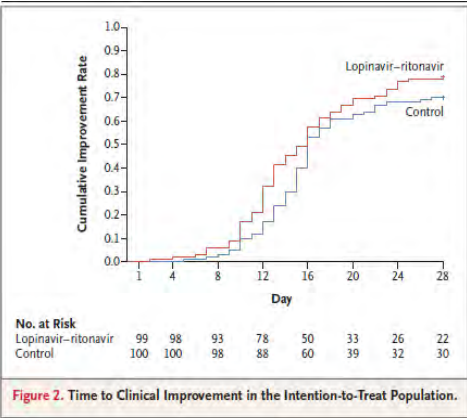
ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## A Trial of Lopinavir–Ritonavir in Adults Hospitalized with Severe Covid-19

B. Cao, Y. Wang, D. Wen, W. Liu, Jingli Wang, G. Fan, L. Ruan, B. Song, Y. Cai, M. Wei, X. Li, J. Xia, N. Chen, J. Xiang, T. Yu, T. Bai, X. Xie, L. Zhang, C. Li, Y. Yuan, H. Chen, Huadong Li, H. Huang, S. Tu, F. Gong, Y. Liu, Y. Wei, C. Dong, F. Zhou, X. Gu, J. Xu, Z. Liu, Y. Zhang, Hui Li, L. Shang, K. Wang, K. Li, X. Zhou, X. Dong, Z. Qu, S. Lu, X. Hu, S. Ruan, S. Luo, J. Wu, L. Peng, F. Cheng, L. Pan,

Table 3. Outcomes in the Intention-to-Treat Population.\*

Characteristic	Total (N=199)	Lopinavir–Ritonavir (N=99)	Standard Care (N=100)	Difference†
Time to clinical improvement — median no. of days (IQR)	16.0 (15.0 to 17.0)	16.0 (13.0 to 17.0)	16.0 (15.0 to 18.0)	1.31 (0.95 to 1.80)‡
Day 28 mortality — no. (%)	44 (22.1)	19 (19.2)§	25 (25.0)	-5.8 (-17.3 to 5.7)
Earlier (≤12 days after onset of symptoms)	21 (23.3)	8 (19.0)	13 (27.1)	-8.0 (-25.3 to 9.3)
Later (>12 days after onset of symptoms)	23 (21.1)	11 (19.3)	12 (23.1)	-3.8 (-19.1 to 11.6)
Clinical improvement — no. (%)				
Day 7	8 (4.0)	6 (6.1)	2 (2.0)	4.1 (-1.4 to 9.5)
Day 14	75 (37.7)	45 (45.5)	30 (30.0)	15.5 (2.2 to 28.8)
Day 28	148 (74.4)	78 (78.8)	70 (70.0)	8.8 (-3.3 to 20.9)
ICU length of stay — median no. of days (IQR)	10 (5 to 14)	6 (2 to 11)	11 (7 to 17)	-5 (-9 to 0)
Of survivors	10 (8 to 17)	9 (5 to 44)	11 (9 to 14)	-1 (-16 to 38)
Of nonsurvivors	10 (4 to 14)	6 (2 to 11)	12 (7 to 17)	-6 (-11 to 0)
Duration of invasive mechanical ventilation — median no. of days (IQR)	5 (3 to 9)	4 (3 to 7)	5 (3 to 9)	-1 (-4 to 2)
Oxygen support — days (IQR)	13 (8 to 16)	12 (9 to 16)	13 (6 to 16)	0 (-2 to 2)
Hospital stay — median no. of days (IQR)	15 (12 to 17)	14 (12 to 17)	16 (13 to 18)	1 (0 to 2)
Time from randomization to discharge — median no. of days (IQR)	13 (10 to 16)	12 (10 to 16)	14 (11 to 16)	1 (0 to 3)
Time from randomization to death — median no. of days (IQR)	10 (6 to 15)	9 (6 to 13)	12 (6 to 15)	-3 (-6 to 2)



### Key findings:

- Open label (not blinded) - n= 199
- 1 hospital in Whuan (China)
- time to clinical improvement, 28 day mortality rate and throat viral RNA detectability were similar in both arms
- median time to clinical improvement was shorter by 1 day in LPV/r arm (modified ITT)
- Gastrointestinal adverse events were more common in LPV/r arm
- Continuous follow up planned



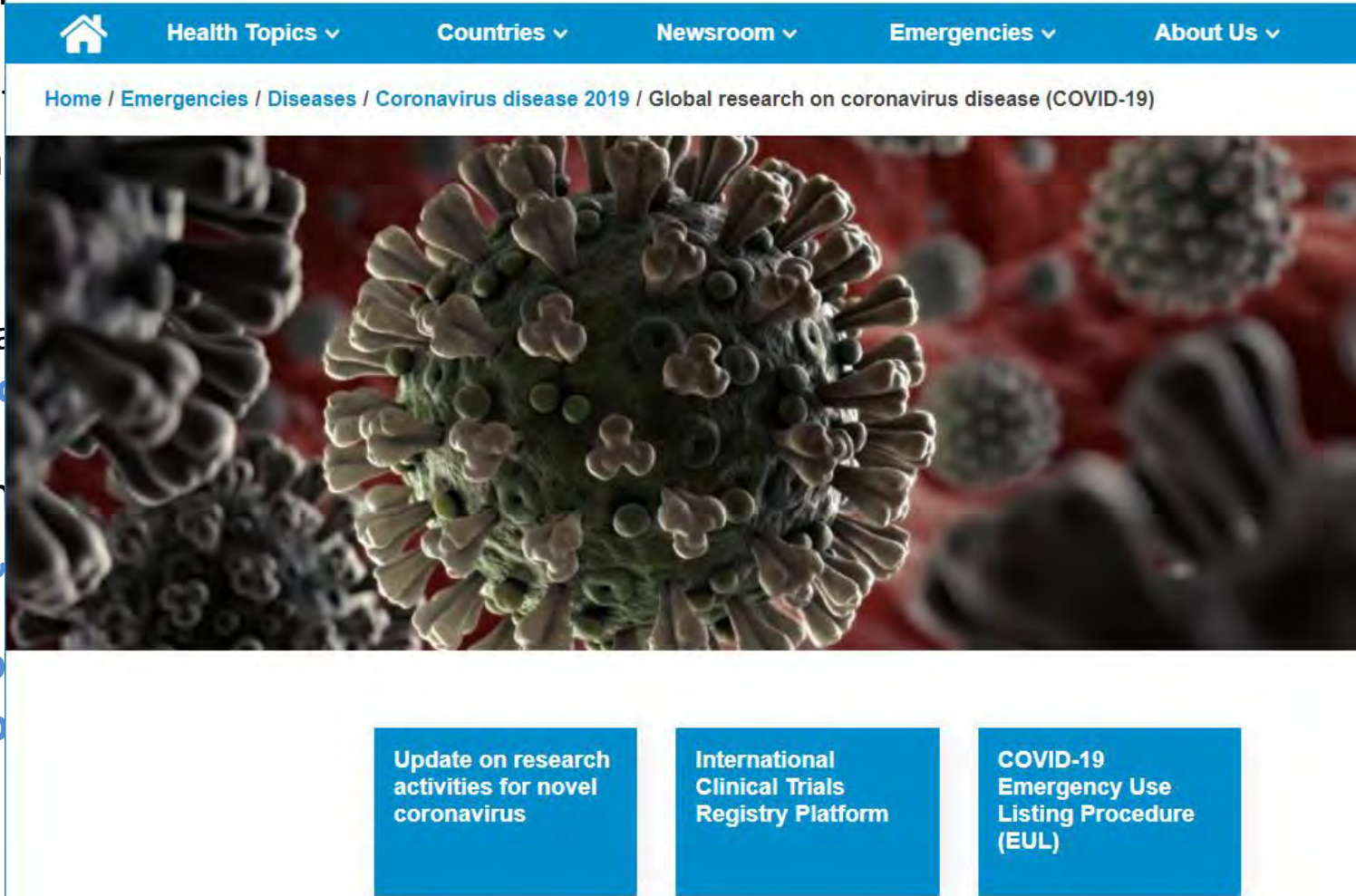
# Major Drugs in Clinical Development to treat COVID-19

- Remdesivir (GS-75734)
- HIV protease inhibitors (LPV/r, DRV/COBI, ASC09/RTV)
- Cloroquine/Hydroxiclorquine
- Immunomodulators (Interferon–alfa 2b; thymosin-alfa)
- Broad activity antivirals (Umifenovir, Baloxavir marboxil, Favipiravir; Galidesivir)
- Monoclonal antibodies (Camrelizumab, Tocilizumab)
- Traditional Chinese medicines

# SOLIDARITY Trial



- WHO launched the trial
- The SOLIDARITY trial is currently overloaded to participants
- The trial entails:
  - an experimental arm receiving hydroxychloroquine
- Many countries have joined the trial, including Bahrain, Canada, and others.
- The COVID-19 Solidarity Trial has enrolled more than 173,000 individuals and over 100,000 samples.



have been

and  
feron-beta.

Argentina,  
and.

than 173,000

# COVID-19: Investigational Therapies

Standard of care remains supportive care. Investigational therapies are described below.



## ANTI-VIRALS

### CHLOROQUINE + HYDROXYCHLOROQUINE (anti-microbial, anti-inflammatory)

- Current status:** multiple phase II + III trials enrolling
- In vitro inhibition of SARS-CoV-2
  - Standard care in China
  - Experimentally used with azithromycin for prevention of bacterial superinfection (*caution: risk for QT prolongation*)
  - Concern for national shortage

### LOPINAVIR/RITONAVIR (protease inhibitor)

- Current status:** multiple phase II + III trials enrolling
- In vitro inhibition of SARS-CoV-1 and MERS-CoV
  - Clinical improvement observed in SARS if given early
  - Recent SARS-CoV-2 trial showed **no clinical improvement**
  - Limited by late distribution of investigational drug
  - Use limited by side effects and medication interactions

## REMDESIVIR

(nucleotide analog pro-drug)

- Current status:** multiple phase III trials enrolling
- In vitro inhibition of SARS-CoV-2

## IMMUNOMODULATORS

### TOCILIZUMAB

(more potent IL-6 inhibitor)

- Current status:** two phase II trials enrolling or soon to be enrolling
- Used for severe illness

### SARILUMAB

(less potent IL-6 inhibitor)

- Current status:** three phase III trials enrolling or soon to be enrolling
- Used for severe illness

Other investigational therapies include favipiravir, interferon beta, ribavirin, baricitinib, and convalescent sera.

3/27/20

# COVID-19 Updates/New technical guidance

- **New Guidance**

- **Surveillance:** Operational considerations for surveillance of COVID-19 using GISRS
- **Clinical care:** Severe Acute Respiratory Infections Treatment Centre: Practical manual
- **Logistics:** Essential Supplies Forecasting Tool
- **Lab:** Guidance for laboratories shipping specimens to WHO reference laboratories that provide confirmatory testing for COVID-19 virus

## All technical guidance by topic

Critical preparedness, readiness and response actions for COVID-19	Country-level coordination, planning, and monitoring	Surveillance, rapid response teams, and case investigation
National laboratories	Clinical care	Infection protection and control / WASH
Risk communication and community engagement	Operational support and logistics	Guidance for schools, workplaces & institutions
Early investigation protocols	Virus origin/Reducing animal-human transmission	Points of entry / mass gatherings
Naming the coronavirus	Humanitarian	Health workers

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance>

# COVID-19 New technical guidance (continued) and Scientific Briefs

## Additional new guidance

- Maintaining essential health services
- COVID-19: Operational guidance for maintaining essential health services during an outbreak
- Guiding principles for immunization activities during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Operational considerations for COVID-19 management in the accommodation sector (Hotels)

## Scientific Briefs (New technical product)

- Scientific summaries of available evidence on specific topics:
  - Modes of transmission of virus causing COVID-19: implications for IPC precaution recommendations
  - Off-label use of medicines for COVID-19
  - Origin of SARS-CoV-2

# Clinical management of severe acute respiratory (SARI) when COVID-19 disease is suspected

Interim guidance

13 March 2020



## 11. Caring for pregnant women with COVID-19

To date, there are limited data on clinical presentation and perinatal outcomes after COVID-19 during pregnancy or the puerperium. There is no evidence that pregnant women present with different signs or symptoms or are at higher risk of severe illness. So far, there is no evidence on mother-to-child transmission when infection manifests in the third trimester, based on negative samples from amniotic fluid, cord blood, vaginal discharge, neonatal throat swabs or breastmilk. Similarly, evidence of increased severe maternal or neonatal outcomes is uncertain, and limited to infection in the third trimester, with some cases of premature rupture of membranes, fetal distress, and preterm birth reported (68, 69).

This section builds on existing recommendations from WHO on pregnancy and infectious diseases and provides additional remarks for the management of pregnant and recently pregnant women.

- ✔ Considering asymptomatic transmission of COVID-19 may be possible in pregnant or recently pregnant women, as with the general population, all women with epidemiologic history of contact should be carefully monitored.
- ✔ Pregnant women with suspected, probable, or confirmed COVID-19, including women who may need to spend time in isolation, should have access to woman-centred, respectful skilled care, including obstetric, fetal medicine and neonatal care, as well as mental health and psychosocial support, with readiness to care for maternal and neonatal complications.

review of observational studies in influenza found a higher risk of mortality and secondary infections with corticosteroids; the evidence was judged as very low to low quality owing to confounding by indication (63). A subsequent study that addressed this limitation by adjusting for time-varying confounders found no effect on mortality (64). Finally, a recent study of patients receiving corticosteroids for MERS used a similar statistical approach and found no effect of corticosteroids on mortality but delayed LRT clearance of MERS-CoV (65). Given the lack of effectiveness and possible harm, routine corticosteroids should be avoided unless they are indicated for another reason. Other reasons may include exacerbation of asthma or COPD, septic shock, and risk/benefit analysis needs to be conducted for individual patients.

**Remark 2:** A recent guideline issued by an international panel and based on the findings of two recent large RCTs makes a conditional recommendation for corticosteroids for all patients with sepsis (including septic shock) (66). Surviving Sepsis guidelines, written before these RCTs were reported, recommend corticosteroids only for patients in whom adequate fluids and vasopressor therapy do not restore hemodynamic stability (5). Clinicians considering corticosteroids for a patient with COVID-19 and sepsis must balance the potential small reduction in mortality with the potential downside of prolonged shedding of coronavirus in the respiratory tract, as has been observed in patients with MERS (65). If corticosteroids are prescribed, monitor and treat hyperglycaemia, hypernatraemia, and hypokalaemia. Monitor for recurrence of inflammation and signs of adrenal insufficiency after stopping corticosteroids, which may have to be tapered. Because of the risk of *strongyloides stercoralis* hyper-infection with steroid therapy, diagnosis or empiric treatment should be considered in endemic areas if steroids are used (67).

**Remark 2 for pregnant women:** WHO recommends antenatal corticosteroid therapy for women at risk of preterm birth from 24 to 34 weeks of gestation when there is no clinical evidence of maternal infection, and adequate childbirth and newborn care is available. However, in cases where the woman presents with mild COVID-19, the clinical benefits of antenatal corticosteroid might outweigh the risks of potential harm to the mother. In this situation, the balance of benefits and harms for the woman and the preterm newborn should be discussed with the woman to ensure an informed decision, as this assessment may vary depending on the woman's clinical condition, her wishes and that of her family, and available health care resources ([https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/maternal\\_perinatal\\_health/preterm-birth-highlights/en/](https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/maternal_perinatal_health/preterm-birth-highlights/en/)).

**Remark 3:** WHO has prioritized the evaluation of corticosteroids in clinical trials to assess safety and efficacy ([https://www.who.int/blueprint/priority-diseases/key-action/Global\\_Research\\_Forum\\_FINAL\\_VERSION\\_for\\_web\\_14\\_feb\\_2020.pdf?ua=1](https://www.who.int/blueprint/priority-diseases/key-action/Global_Research_Forum_FINAL_VERSION_for_web_14_feb_2020.pdf?ua=1)).

This is the second edition (version 1.2) of this document, which was originally adapted from Clinical management of severe acute respiratory infection when MERS-CoV infection is suspected (WHO, 2019).

It is intended for clinicians involved in the care of adult, pregnant, and paediatric patients with or at risk for severe acute respiratory infection (SARI) when infection with the COVID-19 virus is suspected. Considerations for paediatric patients and pregnant women are highlighted throughout the text. It is not meant to replace clinical judgment or specialist advice, but rather to strengthen clinical management of these patients and to provide up-to-date guidance. Best practice for prevention and control (IPC), triage and optimized supportive care are included.

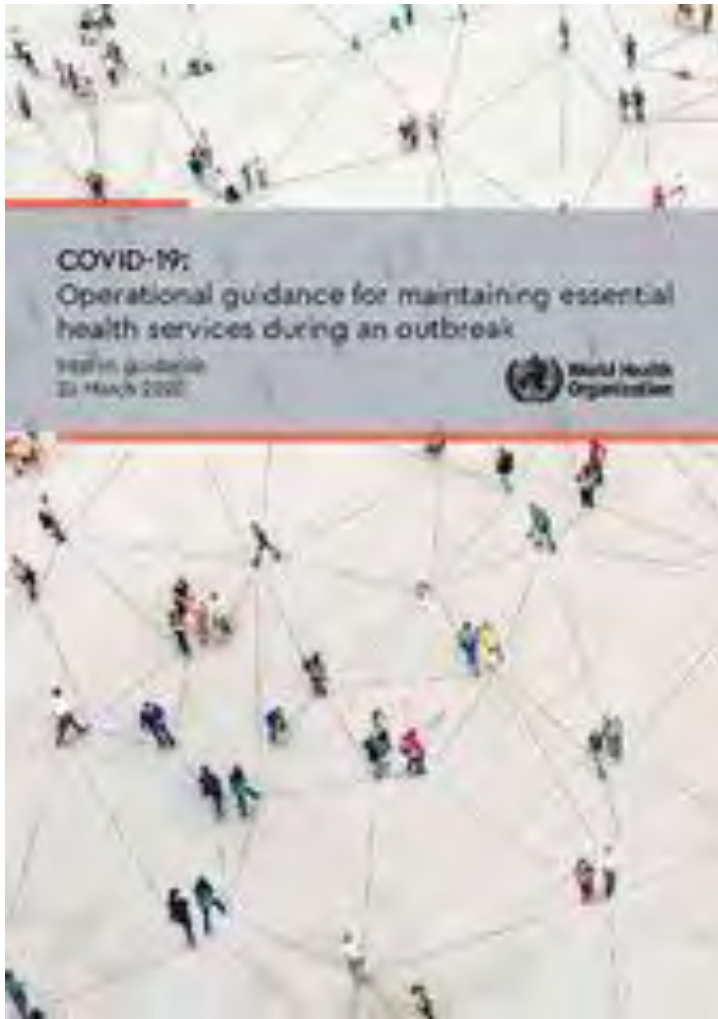
This document is organized into the following sections:

1. Background
  2. Screening and triage: early recognition of patients with SARI associated with COVID-19
  3. Immediate implementation of appropriate IPC measures
  4. Collection of specimens for laboratory diagnosis
  5. Management of mild COVID-19: symptomatic treatment and monitoring
  6. Management of severe COVID-19: oxygen therapy and monitoring
  7. Management of severe COVID-19: treatment of co-infections
  8. Management of critical COVID-19: acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)
  9. Management of critical illness and COVID-19: prevention of complications
  10. Management of critical illness and COVID-19: septic shock
  11. Adjunctive therapies for COVID-19: corticosteroids
  12. Caring for pregnant women with COVID-19
  13. Caring for infants and mothers with COVID-19: IPC and breastfeeding
  14. Care for older persons with COVID-19
  15. Clinical research and specific anti-COVID-19 treatments
- Appendix: resources for supporting management of SARI in children

These symbols are used to flag interventions:

- ✔ Do: the intervention is beneficial (strong recommendation) OR the intervention is a best practice statement
- ✘ Don't: the intervention is known to be harmful.
- ! Consider: the intervention may be beneficial in selected patients (conditional recommendation) OR be worth considering this intervention.

# Maintaining Essential Health Services



<https://www.who.int/publications-detail/covid-19-operational-guidance-for-maintaining-essential-health-services-during-an-outbreak>

When health outbreak and conditions in decisions to while simulta action to ma system collap  
**the Operatic  
response, an  
that countrie  
reorganize a  
for all.**

**WHO TEAM**

## Guiding principles for immunization activities during the COVID-19 pandemic

Interim guidance  
26 March 2020



*\*\*As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves, this document and accompanying FAQ will be revised as necessary. \*\**

Due to the global circulation of the virus causing COVID-19 and the current pandemic, there is risk of disruption to routine immunization activities due to both COVID-19 related burden on the health system and decreased demand for vaccination because of physical distancing requirements or community reluctance. Disruption of immunization services, even for brief periods, will result in increased numbers of susceptible individuals and raise the likelihood of outbreak-prone vaccine preventable diseases (VPDs) such as measles.<sup>1</sup> Such VPD outbreaks may result in increased morbidity and mortality predominantly in young infants and other vulnerable groups, which can cause greater burden on health systems already strained by the COVID-19 response. The high potential for VPD outbreaks makes it imperative for countries to maintain continuity of immunization services wherever services can be conducted under safe conditions. Prior disease outbreaks and humanitarian emergencies have underscored the importance of maintaining essential health services such as immunization, and effectively engaging communities in planning and service delivery.<sup>2,3</sup> Yet the complexity and global reach of the COVID-19 response with respect to mandatory physical distancing (also referred to as social distancing) and economic impact on households is unprecedented for public health.

# Maintaining Essential HIV Prevention and Contraception Services



- Learning from Ebola in West Africa: increased unplanned and teenage pregnancies during emergency response → unsafe abortions and AGYW morbidity
  - **Prioritize continuation of contraception services**
- Many HIV prevention activities likely to be paused or scaled down eg VMMC, community outreach activities.
- **But condoms, harm reduction and methadone programmes need to continue with modifications**
  - Delivery of supplies with social distancing through pharmacies
  - Larger supplies for longer time periods
- **Continue to support HIV testing** including through expanding access to self-testing

## CONDOM SHORTAGE LOOMS AFTER CORONAVIRUS LOCKDOWN SHUTS WORLD'S TOP PRODUCER

Malaysia's Karex Bhd makes one in every five condoms globally. It has not produced a single condom from its three Malaysian factories for more than a week due to a lockdown imposed by the government.



**Condoms “not essential” – purchase banned in a supermarket in South Africa**



# Differentiated HIV testing services (HTS) in COVID-19 Context

- **It is important to support undiagnosed PLHIV to get tested and linked to ART**
  - PLHIV, who do not know their status and are not ART and those with known risk factors (e.g. diabetes), who acquire a COVID-19 infection may be at risk of COVID-19 complications
- **Safety of HTS providers needs to be ensured during testing procedures**
  - practices including PPE, hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene, and physical distancing measures.
  - adaptations such as increased use of phone calls, digital tools (e.g. videos, websites, social media, text messages) and approaches like self-testing
- **Considerations for prioritizing and adapting HTS programmes**
  - Continuing ongoing critical clinical services (e.g. ANC, individuals with symptoms or conditions indicative of HIV or with related co-infections or other co-morbidities (e.g. TB, STIs, malnutrition), and EID of HIV-exposed children).
  - Partner/index/family testing to reach the partners of PLHIV presenting at facilities, as well ongoing key populations programmes; increasingly using phone calls
  - Increasing use of HIV self-testing (HIVST) and restricting/pausing community outreach in some settings
  - Maintain linkage and referrals to ART and condoms.
  - Key populations and other vulnerable groups who need HTS, as well as other comprehensive sexual health services, and social protection.
  - Monitor supply chain management as there may be increased risks of disruptions.

## Considerations for HIVST

- HIVST may be an acceptable alternative to maintain services while adhering to physical distancing guidance.
- It is important to strategically implement HIVST **prioritizing areas and populations** with the greatest needs and gaps in testing coverage.
- **HIVST approaches include:**
  - distribution for personal use and/or sexual and/or drug injecting partners of PLHIV and social contacts of key populations
  - In some high HIV burden settings, pregnant women may also provide HIVST kits to their male partners.
- **Priority settings to consider**
  - Pick up at facilities or community sites
  - Online platforms (e.g. websites, social media, digital platforms) and distribution through mail
  - Pharmacies, retail vendors, vending machines



# WHO recommendations supporting DSD for clinically stable clients during COVID-19 (advise MMD & avoid group meetings)

## WHEN

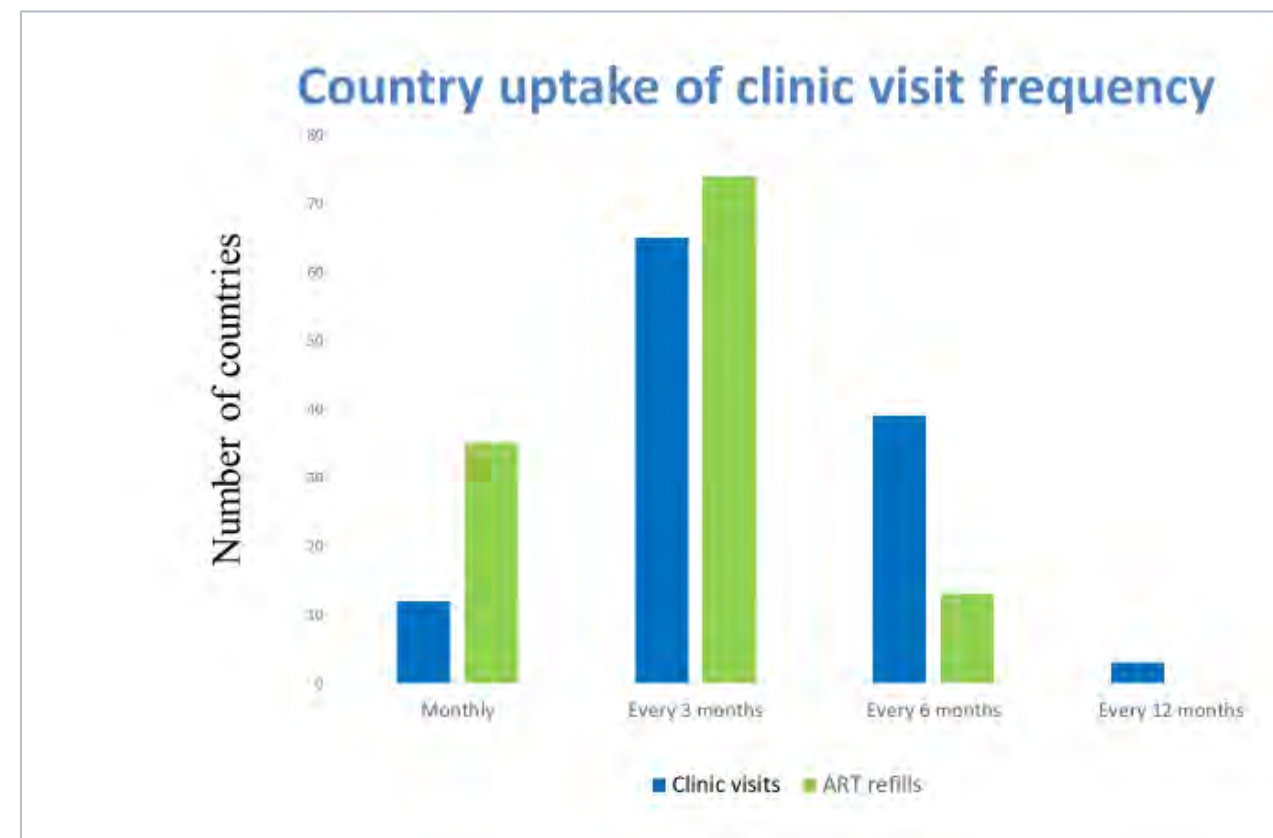
- 3-6 monthly ART refills
- 3-6 monthly clinic visits

## WHERE

- ART maintenance at community level

## WHO

- Trained non-physicians/nurses/midwives can initiate and maintain ART
- Trained/supervised lay providers can distribute ART
- Trained/supervised CHWs can dispense ART between clinic visits







# Regional Health Systems Response Monitor



<https://www.covid19healthsystem.org/mainpage.aspx>

covid19healthsystem.org/mainpage.aspx

**World Health Organization**  
Region of Europe

**European Commission**

**European Observatory**  
on Health Systems and Policies

## COVID-19 Health System Response Monitor

The Health System Response Monitor (HSRM) has been designed in response to the COVID-19 outbreak to collect and organize up-to-date information on how countries are responding to the crisis. It focuses primarily on the responses of health systems but also captures wider public health initiatives. This is a joint undertaking of the WHO Regional Office for Europe, the European Commission, and the European Observatory on Health Systems and Policies.

Click [here](#) for policy recommendations and technical guidance from the WHO Regional Office for Europe on how to strengthen the health systems response to COVID-19 and click [here](#) for the EU coronavirus response in the area of public health.

### THE COVID-19 HSRM FEATURES THE FOLLOWING SERVICES

#### COUNTRIES



Select a country to access up-to-date information on health system responses and other public health initiatives related to the COVID-19 crisis.

Please select a country from the list ▼

#### COMPARE COUNTRY RESPONSES



Select different countries and compare their responses to the COVID-19 crisis.

[Compare](#)

#### IMPORTANT REFERENCES



Important links and articles related to the COVID-19 crisis.

[Read](#)

### THEMATIC ANALYSIS

Cross-country thematic analysis of health system responses and other public health initiatives related to the COVID-19 crisis.

# Tracking the Availability of Essential meds and ARVs with Partners

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

<https://www.who.int/news-room/commentaries/detail/off-label-use-of-medicines-for-covid-19>

<https://www.who.int/ethics/publications/infectious-disease-outbreaks/en/>

## Off-label use of medicines for COVID-19

### Scientific brief

**31 March 2020**

No pharmaceutical products have yet been shown to be safe and effective for the treatment of COVID-19. However, a number of medicines have been suggested as potential investigational therapies, many of which are now being or will soon be studied in clinical trials, including the SOLIDARITY trial co-sponsored by WHO and participating countries.

In many countries, doctors are giving COVID-19 patients medicines that have not been approved for this disease. The use of licensed medicines for indications that have not been approved by a national medicines regulatory authority is considered “off-label” use. The prescription of medicines for off-label use by doctors may be subject to national laws and regulations. All health care workers should be aware of and comply with the laws and regulations governing their practice. Further, such prescribing should be done on a case-by-case basis. Unnecessary stockpiling and the creation of shortages of approved medicines that are required to treat other diseases should be avoided.

It can be ethically appropriate to offer individual patients experimental interventions on an emergency basis outside clinical trials, provided that no proven effective treatment exists; it is not possible to initiate clinical studies immediately; the patient or his or her legal representative has given informed consent; and the emergency use of the intervention is monitored, and the results are documented and shared in a timely manner with the wider medical and scientific community.

The decision to offer a patient an unproven or experimental treatment is between the doctor and the patient but must comply with national law. Where it is possible and feasible for the treatment to be given as part of a clinical trial, this should be done unless the patient declines to participate in the trial.

If it is not possible to give the treatment as part of a clinical trial, appropriate records of the use of the medicine must be kept, in compliance with national law, and outcomes for patients should be monitored and recorded.

If early results from an unproven or experimental treatment are promising, the treatment should be studied in the context of a formal clinical trial to establish its safety, efficacy, risks, and benefits.



# COVID19 | Supply Chain Interagency Coordination Cell

## Partners

The Cell is led by WHO and made of partners committed to leveraging and complementing their respective strengths to fight COVID19



3 April, 2020



# COVID19 | Supply Chain Interagency Coordination Cell

## Workstreams – Enablers – Goal



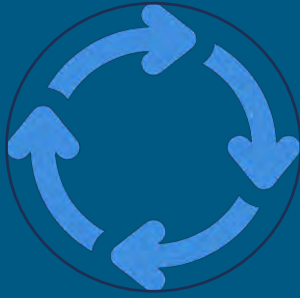
### Supply and Demand

Visibility over the supply and demand of critical items for COVID19 response: PPE, lab diagnostic and clinical equipment



### Logistics and Access

Up to date information about access and logistics constraints, availability of assets and services



### Programme Continuity

Flag disruptions to ongoing humanitarian and development programme



### Scale up of Operations

Provide visibility to the COVID19 response, identify gaps and appropriate actors to fill them and facilitate access to finance

### Information Management & Advocacy

Collect, analyze and disseminate the appropriate products through different platforms

### Coordination

Establish a main entry point for the COVID19 response to support informed decision making among partners

Enable an efficient and effective supply chain response across the community through the dissemination of information to support strategic guidance, operational decision-making, and overall monitoring

3 April, 2020

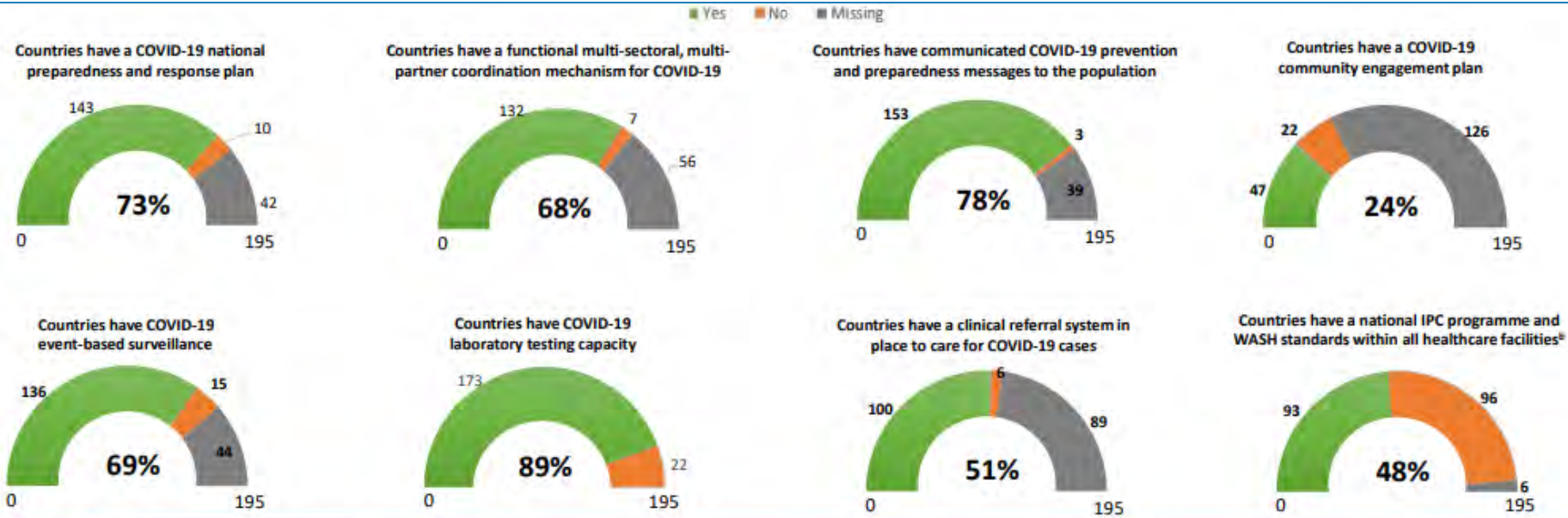
## 3 important points for Health system preparedness

- TRIAGE
- Space and Supplies
- Health care workers



# COVID-19 Global Preparedness and Response Summary Measures

Data as of 16 March 2020



## 312 600 ENROLMENTS FOR COVID-19 COURSES ON OpenWHO

	<b>Outbreak specific</b> Introduction to COVID-19	<b>169 610 users</b> Available in 7 languages
	<b>Health and safety</b> eProtect Respiratory Infections	<b>19 270 users</b> Available in 4 languages
	<b>Interventions</b> Critical Care for Severe Acute Respiratory Infections	<b>17 000 users</b> Available in 3 languages
	<b>Interventions</b> IPC for COVID-19	<b>75 910 users</b> Available in 4 languages
	<b>Country preparedness and response planning</b>	<b>30 840 users</b> Available in 1 language

## INCREASING THE KNOWLEDGE BASE: COUNTRY UPTAKE OF INVESTIGATION PROTOCOLS

### Transmission dynamics and severity



- Intention confirmed: 28 countries**  
(AFR 14, AMR 3, EMR 2, EUR 4, SEAR 0, WPR 5)
- Implementation started: 11 countries**  
(AFR 2, AMR 1, EMR 0, EUR 4, SEAR 0, WPR 4)
- Progress shared with WHO: 4 countries**  
(AFR 0, AMR 0, EMR 0, EUR 3, SEAR 0, WPR 1)

### Clinical characterization for hospitalized cases



- Intention confirmed (0)**
- Implementation started (0)**
- Progress shared with WHO (0)**

#### Notes

a. Data collected from 194 Member States and 1 territory through the WHO Regional Offices.

b. The indicator for infection prevention and control (IPC) was based on the International Health Regulations State Parties Annual Reporting (SPAR) results from 2019, or 2018 results if 2019 data was not available

# Progress update: COVID-19 Partners Platform

## <https://covid-19-response.org>

### Global level updates

- **UNDCO (NY)** interest for use in wider UN response
- **World Bank** piloting for specific countries

---

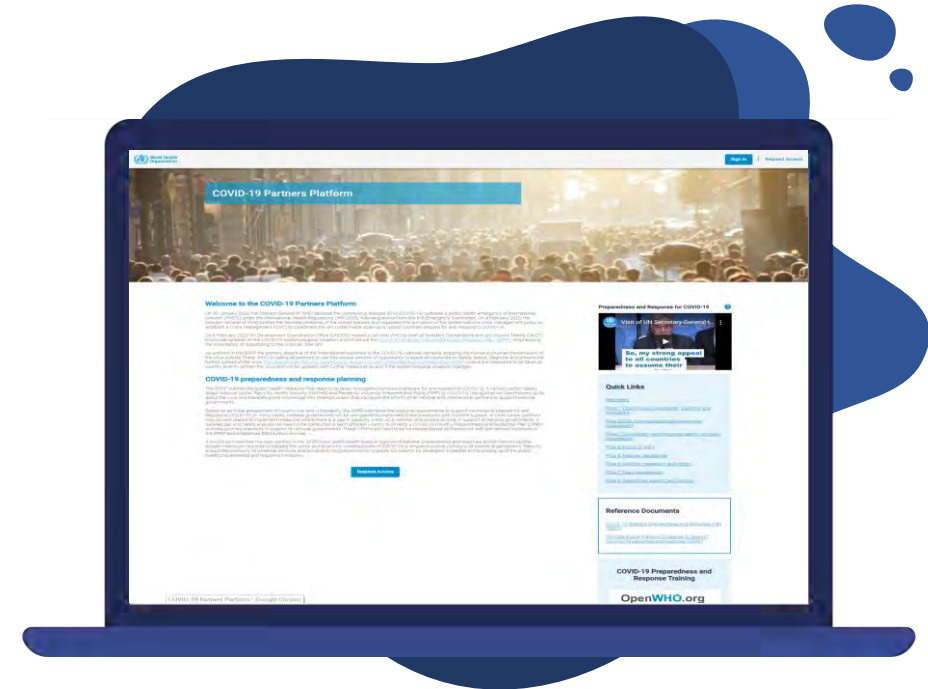
### Region level updates

- **Regional focal points** engaged in AFRO, EURO, PAHO
- **Ongoing on-boarding** in EMRO, SEARO and WPRO

---

### Country level updates

- **Increasing engagement from countries**
  - 25 countries participated in live demo sessions
  - 11 countries identified “Country Admins”
  - 3 countries actively using the Platform
- **Increasing exposure in donor community**
  - 22 donors from 12 countries registered
- **Global support team involvement**
  - 15-20 country coaching sessions planned per week



### Main challenge:

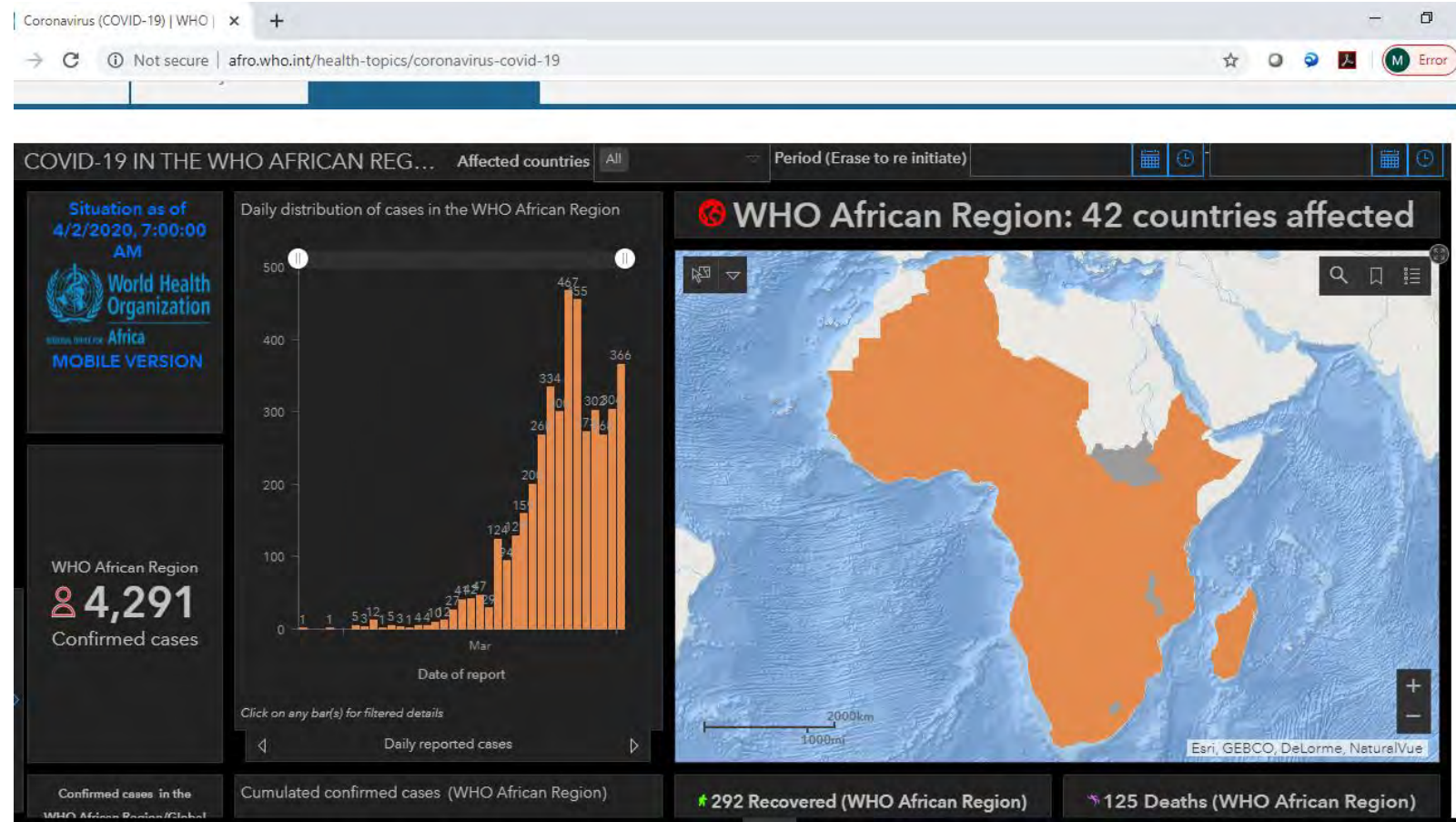
- UN Country Teams to identify “Country Admins Users”

# COVID-19 response in Africa

<https://www.afro.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus-covid-19>

African countries move from COVID-19 readiness to response as many confirm cases

The global community is racing to slow down and eventually halt the spread of COVID-19, a pandemic that has claimed thousands of lives and sickened tens of thousands of others. In Africa, the virus has spread to dozens of countries within weeks. Governments and health authorities across the continent are striving to limit widespread infections.



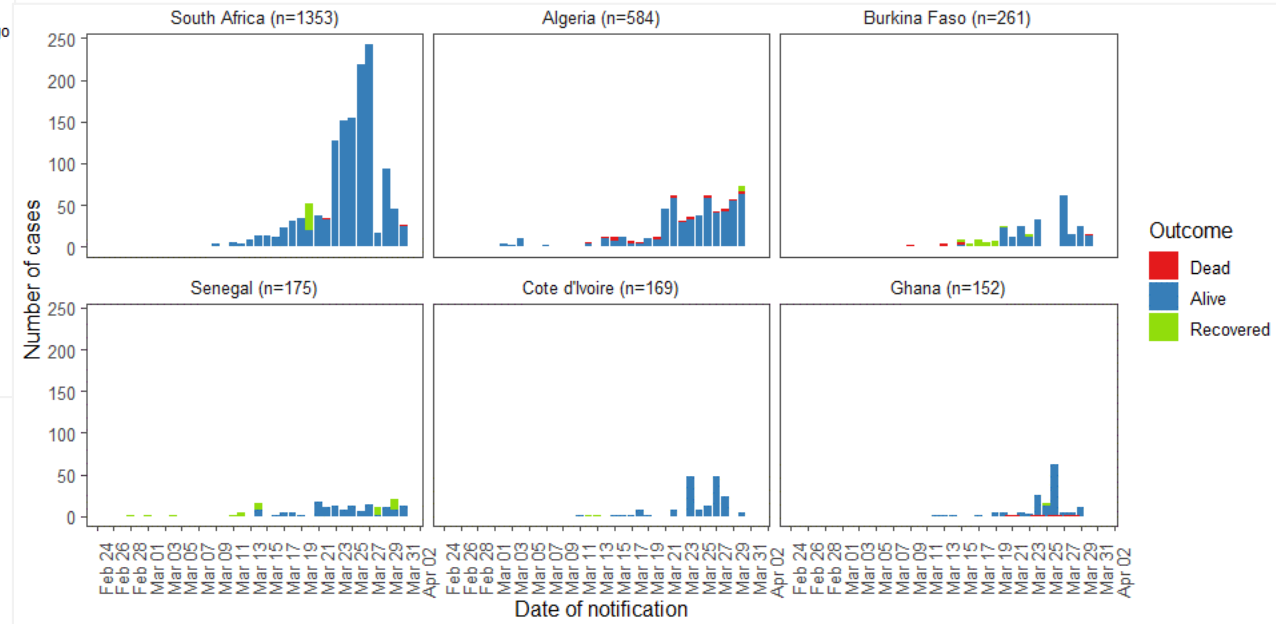
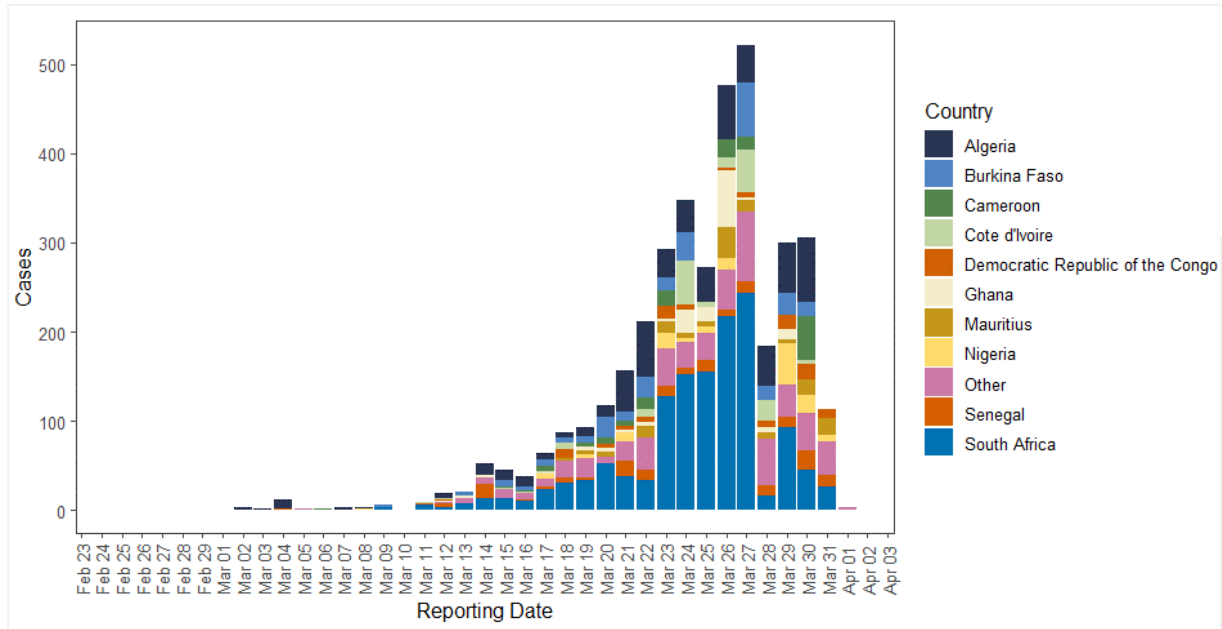
# COVID-19

## WHO AFRICAN REGION

### External Situation Report 5

Date of issue: 1 April 2020

Data as reported by: 1 April 2020 as of 12:00 PM (GMT-1)



World Health Organization  
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Africa

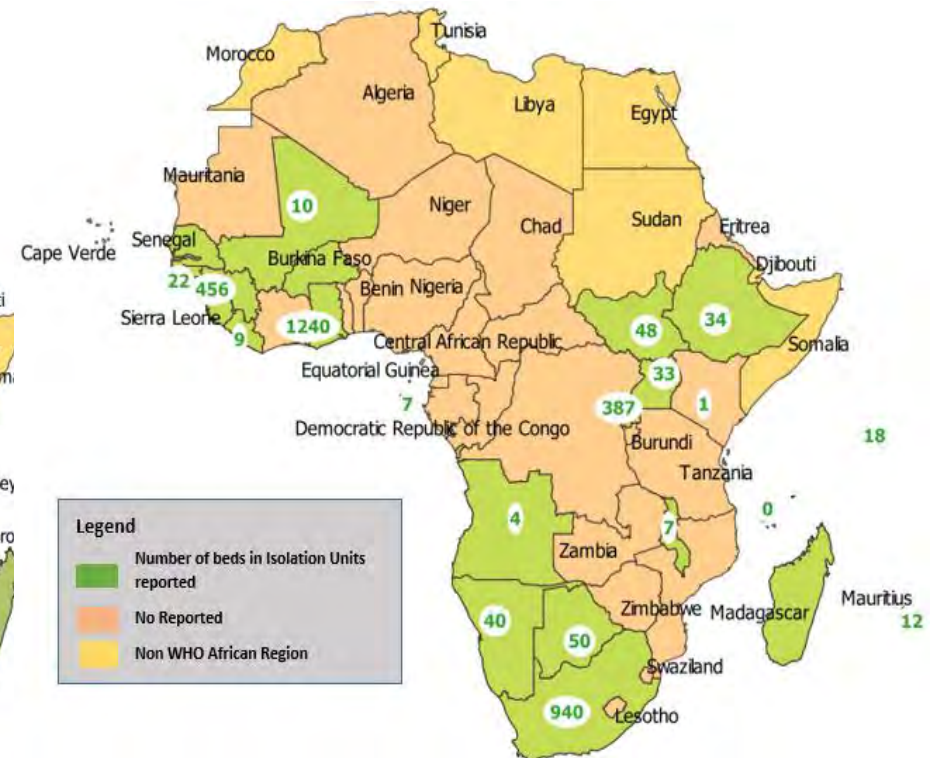
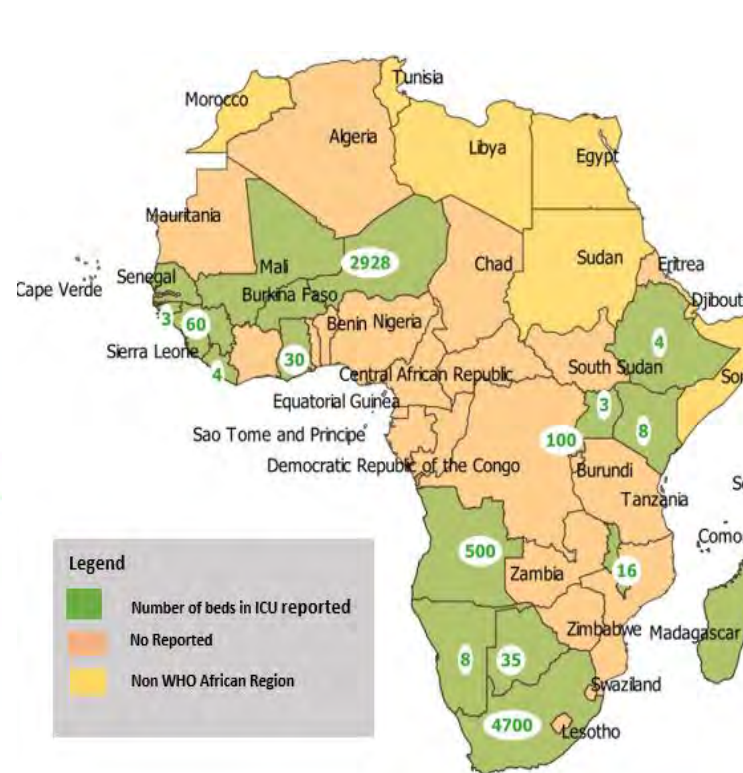
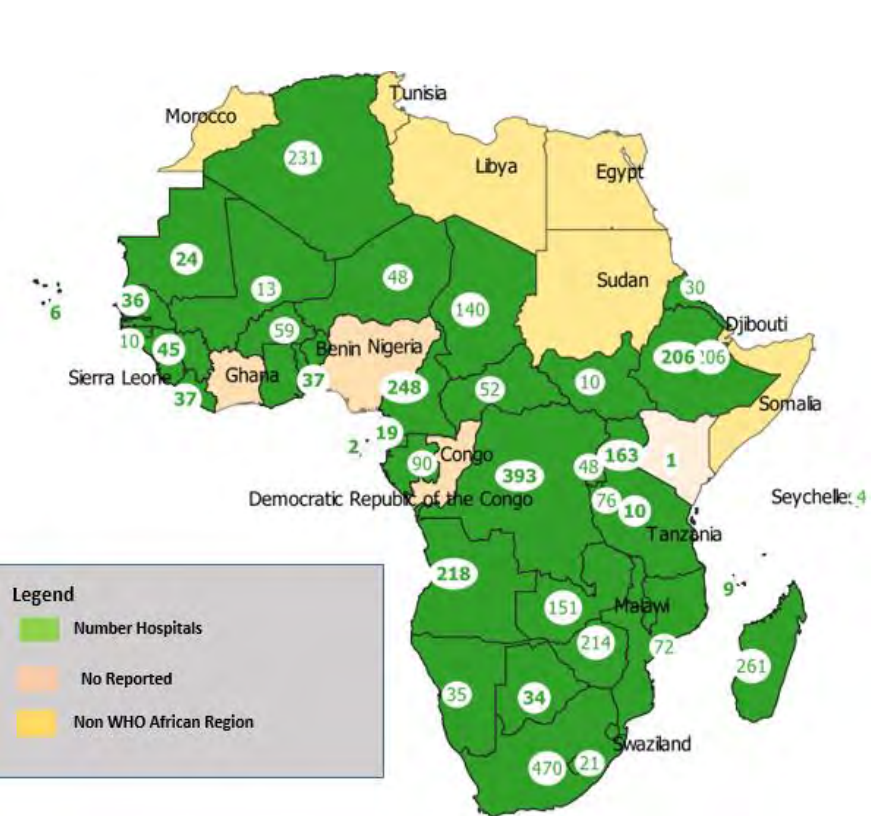


# Africa's capacity to respond to COVID-19

Number of Hospitals

Number of beds in ICU

Number of beds in Isolation Units

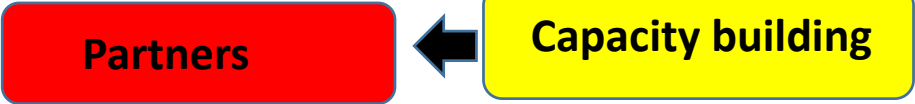
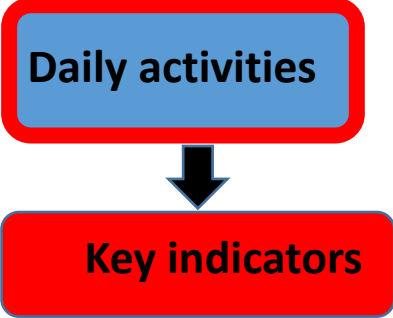
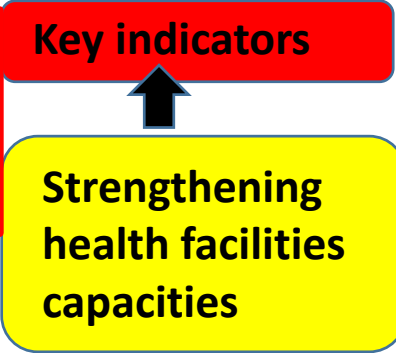


# Partnerships



SENEGAL

Consultant through remote support



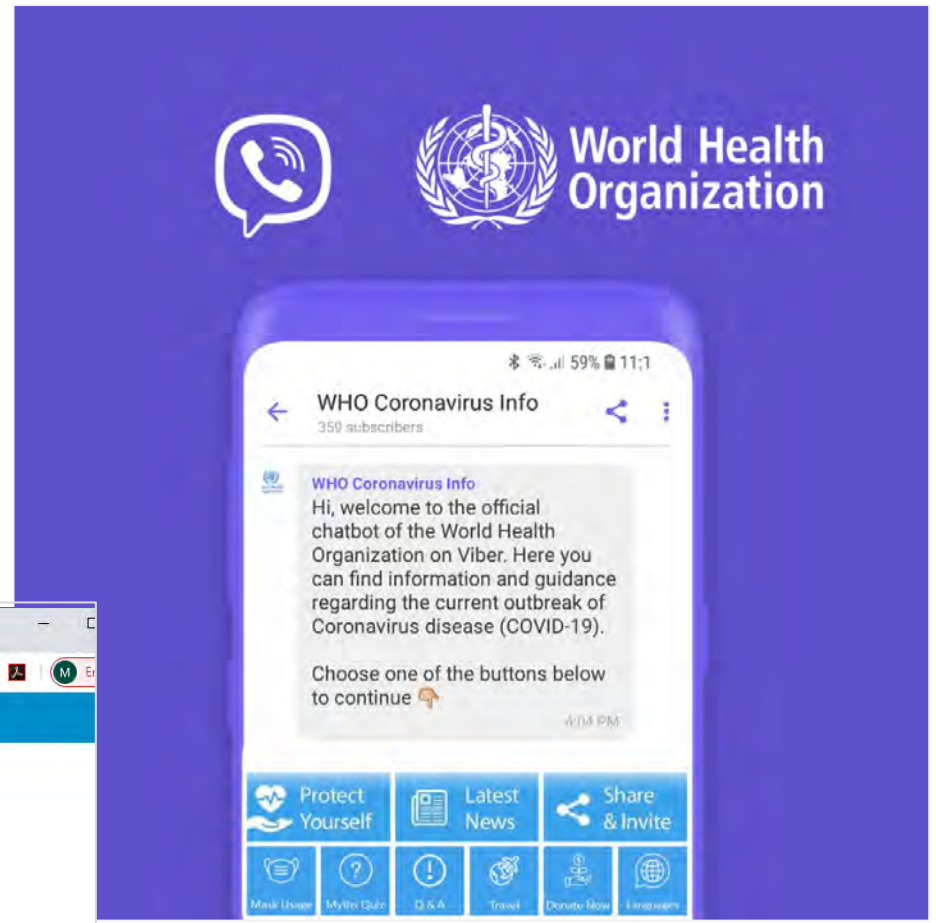
ECSA-HC

Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI)

Royal College of Physicians (London)







3 April, 2020





World Health Organization (WHO) ✓

@WHO

#AskWHO on mental health during #COVID19. Ask your questions to our expert Aiysha Malik.



World Health Organization (WHO) ✓ @WHO

#AskWHO on mental health during #COVID19. Ask your questions to our expert Aiysha Malik.

pscp.tv

2:38 PM · Mar 10, 2020 · Periscope

738 Retweets 1.2K Likes



World Health Organization (WHO) ✓ @WHO · 21h

Replying to @WHO

Ask your questions on how to manage fear, stigma and discrimination during #COVID19 - use hashtag #AskWHO.

46 92 189

# Addressing fear, stigma and discrimination Engagement and information including through social media



Tedros Adhanom Ghebr... ✓

@DrTedros

Following

Thank you Mark Zuckerberg & @sherylsandberg for a constructive call today & your efforts to support the #COVID19 response. Your partnership & that of your @Facebook teams is greatly appreciated & we look forward to even more, in the service of accurate, lifesaving information!

1:16 PM - 10 Mar 2020

121 Retweets 457 Likes



WHO, UNICEF and IFRC issued guidance on **risk communication and community engagement** for COVID-19 preparedness and the response

[https://www.who.int/publications-detail/risk-communication-and-community-engagement-\(rcce\)-action-plan-guidance](https://www.who.int/publications-detail/risk-communication-and-community-engagement-(rcce)-action-plan-guidance)



# Civil society and community engagement

Engagement facilitated through:

- UNAIDS Joint Programme
- Global Fund
- Global Action Plan for healthy lives and wellbeing
- UHC 2030
- Initiatives from communities and civil society

Issues:

- Coordination and content management
- Language and adaptation



10 Mar 2020

**Lessons learnt from the HIV response for COVID-19: Building community resilience**

Commentary By Rico Gustav, Executive Director of Global Network of People Living with HIV

# COVID-19 summary messages



**Situation highly  
dynamic**

**Real-time evidence and  
information sharing  
and coordination  
critical**

**Clear learning from  
HIV, Ebola and other  
disease outbreaks**

**Community  
engagement and rights  
have to inform the  
response**

# Extra slides

# Questions

- Could HIV treatments (ART, for instance) be a key for finding a cure for COVID-19? (10)
- What do we know about COVID-19 in children ? Are we expecting similarities for children living with HIV based on current experience/data? (4)
- Are there any special policies/protocols for positive pregnant women due to this pandemic?
- Are there special precautions needed to be taken for people living with HIV during this COVID-19 pandemic?
- How can we maintain the adherence of people living with HIV during these critical hours of national lockdown and social distancing?
- Our clients who are adolescents living with HIV want a simple explanation for why people with COVID-19 have no treatment but can get better. How can a virus just go away but HIV doesn't?
- Where do people living with HIV who are diagnosed with comorbidities stand in this pandemic?
  - Is there anything specific to people who inject drugs?
  - Any reported increased risk of COVID-19 by hepatitis B patients?
- Any specific tools for psychosocial support to HIV patients focused upon Covid- 19?
- Are medication or vaccine studies/trials for COVID-19 going to include persons living with HIV? How far are we on the research and development of a vaccine? Or of another specific treatment? (7)
- What data are available about COVID-19 among people living with HIV? Are surveillance systems being put in place in order to accurately monitor this evolving situation and quickly disseminate results?
- How can we best support adolescents and young people living with HIV?

# Personal Protective Equipment Shipments (as of 13 March)

SHIPPED	Mask, Surgical	Mask, N95	Gloves, Examination	Gown	Goggles	Faceshield
AFRO	26,700	7,400	52,300	8,013	680	2,710
PAHO	12,000	210	12,000	1,004	200	1,400
EMRO	154,000	12,420	304,000	43,072	2,400	10,000
EURO	109,080	2,450	109,100	15,300	2,500	
SERO	260,000	24,715	160,000	14,000	5,250	6,500
WPRO	139,700	4,700	90,200	3,700	2,640	220
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>701,480</b>	<b>51,895</b>	<b>727,600</b>	<b>85,089</b>	<b>13,670</b>	<b>20,830</b>

## SHIPPED: Regional Breakdown

WPRO	11	Cambodia, Fiji, Kiribati, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu
SEARO	9	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste
EMRO	11	Afghanistan, Djibouti, Lebanon, Somalia, Pakistan, Sudan, Morocco, Iran, Jordan, Iraq and Tunisia
AFRO	24	Algeria, Angola, Benin, Cape Verde, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mozambique, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe
PAHO	1	Bolivia
EURO	12	Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan
<b>TOTAL COUNTRIES</b>	<b>68</b>	

# COVID-19 Interventions for Points of Entry - Screening

- Entry screening at all PoEs (airports, seaports, ground crossing)
- Affected countries are encouraged to start exit screening
- Follow-up of travelers arriving from high risk areas
- Screening at the Point of Entry should be complemented by a robust national surveillance system to detect cases missed at the PoE

**Overall score PoE readiness 70%**

