



Short Update 42a COVID-19 Coronavirus Disease 23rd of October 2020



GLOBAL



41 632 312

Confirmed cases
28 293 350
recovered
1 136 766 deaths

USA

(new cases/day 75 528)



8 342 042

confirmed cases
3 323 000 recovered
222 146 deaths

India

(new cases/day 55 839)



7 706 946

confirmed cases
6 874 518 recovered
116 616 deaths

Brazil

(new cases/day 24 818)



5 323 630

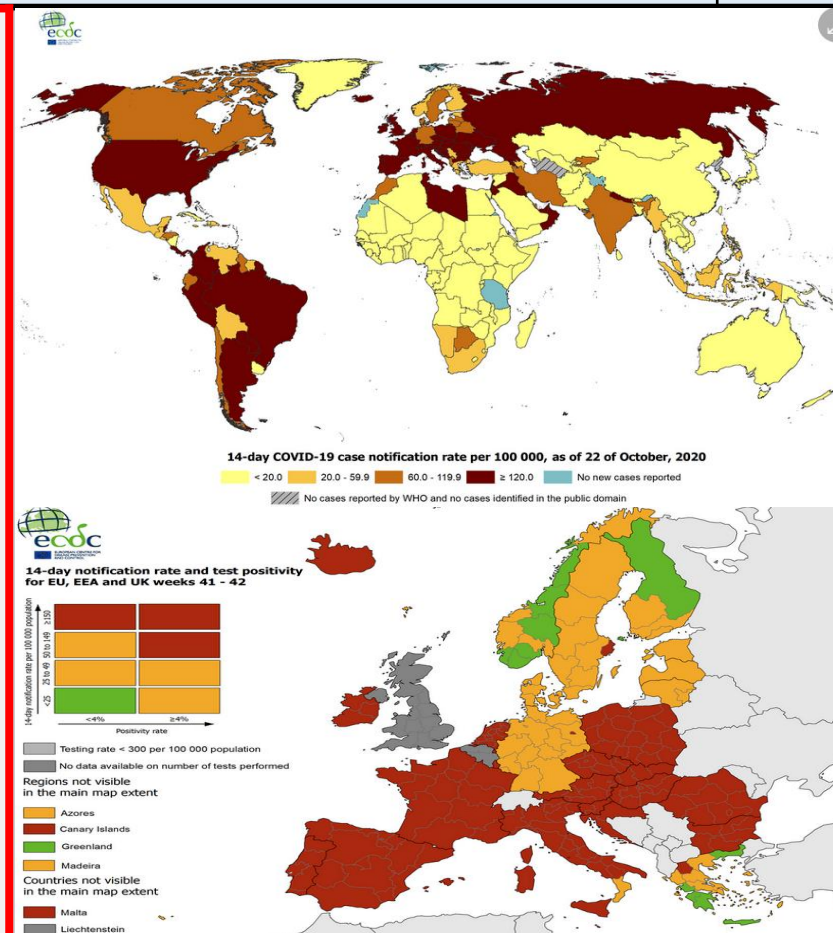
confirmed cases
4 526 393 recovered
155 900 deaths

News:

- It has been proven that more than 40.7 million people worldwide have contracted the coronavirus. The number of deaths related to the virus surges to over 1.12 million. Since the first known cases in China in December, the virus has spread to more than 210 countries and territories. The United States, India, Brazil and Russia have the most infections. Argentina recently became the fifth country to pass the million mark.
- Spain** has broken the one million corona infections mark. The number of more than one million infections is the highest value of all Western European countries and sixth worldwide. Only the USA, India, Brazil, Russia and Argentina have reported more infected people.
- UN:** want to take action against the spread of false information about the corona pandemic. The "[Pledge to Pause](#)" initiative is the first global campaign aimed at influencing the behaviour of social media users. The message is to be spread on Twitter and Instagram as well as through partner organizations. The UN hope to reach a billion people by the end of December.
- EU:** In a reform paper, that will be discussed at a video conference of EU health ministers next week, EU expects the WHO to provide greater transparency in how states deal with emerging health crises. The paper underscores the importance of WHO in addressing global health challenges. A lack of transparency and inadequate funding for the organization were among the most pressing of many challenges. The draft also calls for a more effective and consistently applied reporting system for reporting by States parties to WHO.
- FDA:** has officially [approved the antiviral drug Remdesivir](#) for the treatment of COVID-19 patients. It is limited for use in adult and pediatric patients 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 40 kilograms and requiring hospitalization.
- Find Articles and other materials about COVID-19 on **our** website [here](#).
- Please use **our** online observation form to report your lessons learned observations as soon as possible [here](#)

Topics:

- Global situation**
- Subject in Focus:** The COVID-NMA initiative
- In the press**



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EUROPE



8 082 807

confirmed cases
3 300 050 recovered
255 667 deaths

Russia

(new cases/day 15 704)



1 453 923

confirmed cases
1 102 564 recovered
25 072 deaths

SPAIN

(new cases/day 20 986)



1 026 281

confirmed cases
150 376 recovered
34 521 deaths

FRA

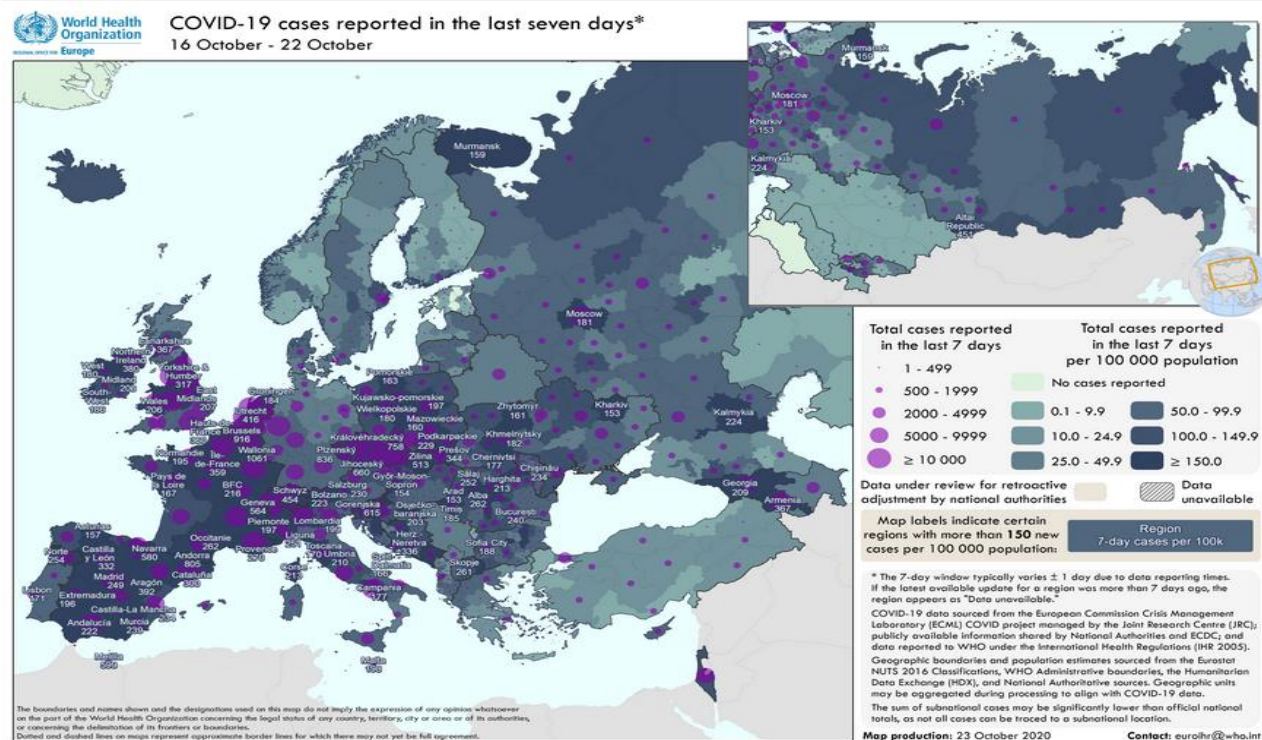
(new cases/day 41 622)



999 043

confirmed cases
108 599 recovered
34 210 deaths

Global Situation



EU: According to the World Health Organization, the number of infections with the coronavirus within a week in Europe has peaked. In the past week, more than 927,000 new infections were registered. The number of confirmed infections increased by 25 percent across Europe. 38 percent of the new corona cases recorded worldwide last week were in Europe. According to the WHO, more than half of these cases were registered in three countries: Russia, the Czech Republic and Italy. The number of deaths rose by a third compared to the previous week, according to the report.

SLV: is expanding its corona measures. From Saturday, most shops as well as hotels, kindergartens, student dormitories, hairdressers and beauty salons will close. This was announced by Prime Minister Janez Jana. Restaurants are then no longer allowed to serve guests, only delivery and collection of food are permitted. The new measures are initially valid for one week.

ITA: Within 24 hours, more than 16,000 new infections with the coronavirus were recorded - more than ever since the beginning of the pandemic. At the region of Lazio, to which the capital Rome belongs, a night curfew is imposed due to the renewed strong spread of the corona virus. The curfew comes into effect on Friday evening and is valid for 30 days. Leaving the house or apartment between 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. is only permitted in exceptional cases. Lazio is the third Italian region to have a night curfew. In the past few days, the drastic measure had already been decided for the regions of Lombardy and Campania. Exceptions to the curfew are possible for medical or professional reasons.

DEU: [German soldiers could be sent to crisis missions in other NATO and partner countries](#) during the second wave of the corona pandemic. As a defense ministry spokesman confirmed, the German government has promised NATO support for its Allied Hand emergency plan. According to this, medical personnel, pioneers and experts from the troops would be provided for the defense against nuclear, biological or chemical dangers for missions abroad. A total of around 160 specialists should be possible. In addition, soldiers who support the respective deployment from Germany could be added, according to the ministry. 4 other Allied partners, like GBR and FRA have already promised their support too.

AUT: The traditional Viennese Christmas markets are due to open this year despite the pandemic. The Austrian capital has approved 18 markets with a total of 852 market stalls, as the market office announced. The operators have therefore worked out a prevention concept in coordination with hygiene specialists: For example, a mask requirement applies to visitors and stand operators at all Christmas markets. In order to leave space for safety distances, there are 178 fewer market stalls than in the previous year.

POL: According to the Polish Ministry of Health, around 12,100 new corona infections were registered in the country within 24 hours. In addition, there would be 168 deaths in connection with an infection.

CZE: With almost 15,000 more infections in 24 hours, the authorities again recorded a high number of new infections. Strict restrictions apply again in the country: residents are only allowed to leave their apartment or house to go to work, to see a doctor or to go shopping. With the exception of supermarkets and drug stores, almost all shops were closed again.

POR: For the first time since the outbreak of the corona pandemic, there have been more than 3,000 new infections in Portugal. For the three worst-affected districts of Felgueiras, Lousada and Paços de Ferreira in the north of the country, the government decided to take drastic measures for an initial week. After midnight, people may only leave the house with a valid reason - for example to go to work or to the doctor. Shops have to close at 10 p.m.

FRA: over 41,000 people were newly infected with the corona virus within 24 hours, more than ever before. According to the information, 165 new deaths have been registered in hospitals since Wednesday.

JAP: Japan's population is getting older: Especially in the wake of the corona pandemic, far fewer women have become pregnant in recent months than in the same period of the previous year, which is why significantly fewer babies could be born next year, said the Ministry of Health. Accordingly, the number of pregnancies between May and July fell by 11.4 percent compared to the same period in 2019. This threatens to exacerbate the rapid aging of society..

USA: Baseball fans in Los Angeles can cheer for the 2020 World Series from their car seat. As an alternative to visiting the stadium, the game between the local Los Angeles Dodgers and the Tampa Bay Rays was broadcast on large screens in front of the stadium in the US metropolis.



Global Situation

Global epidemiological situation

The incidence of new COVID-19 cases has continued to accelerate, while the incidence of new deaths has remained relatively stable (Figure 1). As of 18 October, over 40 million cases and 1.1 million deaths have been reported globally, with over 2.4 million new cases and 36 000 new deaths reported over the past week.

The **European Region** has continued to report a rapid increase in cases and deaths, with over 927,000 new cases reported this past week – a 25% weekly increase in cases compared to the previous week – contributing 38% of all new cases reported worldwide. Similarly, the number of deaths continues to climb with a 29% increase from last week.

Increases, although more gradual, were also observed in the **African, Eastern-Mediterranean** and **Western Pacific** Regions.

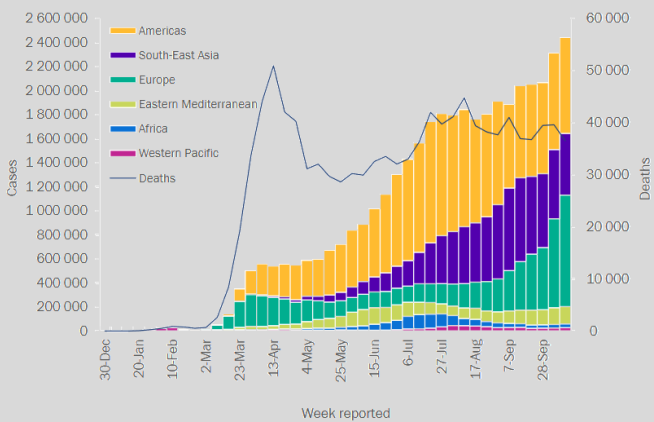
Declines continued to be reported in the Region of the **Americas** and the **South-East Asia** Region; although the incidence of new infections remains high, and collectively these two regions contribute over half of new cases and deaths observed globally.

The countries reporting the highest number of cases in the past week remain the same as last week: **India, the United States of America, France, Brazil** and the **United Kingdom**.

Table 1. Newly reported and cumulative COVID-19 confirmed cases and deaths, by WHO Region, as of 18 October 2020**						
WHO Region	New cases in last 7 days (%)	Change in new cases in last 7 days	Cumulative cases (%)	New deaths in last 7 days (%)	Change in new deaths in last 7 days*	Cumulative deaths (%)
Europe	927 433 (38%)	25%	8 027 954 (20%)	8 386 (23%)	29%	256 540 (23%)
Americas	798 794 (33%)	-1%	18 800 094 (47%)	16 283 (45%)	-21%	608 727 (55%)
South-East Asia	513 444 (21%)	-11%	8 546 666 (21%)	6 864 (19%)	-11%	135 275 (12%)
Eastern Mediterranean	144 133 (6%)	4%	2 786 477 (7%)	3 492 (10%)	10%	70 902 (6%)
Africa	31 473 (1%)	11%	1 267 664 (3%)	1 058 (3%)	8%	28 469 (3%)
Western Pacific	28 317 (1%)	8%	688 737 (2%)	464 (1%)	-27%	14 823 (1%)
* Other	-	-	741 (<1%)	-	-	13 (<1%)
Global	2 443 594 (100%)	6%	40 118 333 (100%)	36 547 (100%)	-8%	1 114 749 (100%)

<https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situation-reports/20201020-weekly-epi-update-10.pdf>

Figure 1: Number of COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, 30 December 2019 through 18 October 2020**



Digital health atlas

The US airline United Airlines is testing a new digital health passport to develop a common international standard for COVID-19 test results. The global pilot program aims to build a network of trustworthy laboratories so that test results and vaccination records can be certified across borders and shown at airports.

The first trials are taking place on Cathay Pacific Airways and United Airlines with select volunteers on flights between London, New York, Hong Kong and Singapore. Additional airlines with routes across Asia, Africa, the Americas, Europe and the Middle East will follow shortly after.

To use the CommonPass, travellers take a COVID-19 test at a certified lab and upload the results to their mobile phone. They then complete any additional health screening questionnaires required by the destination country.

"The goal of these trials is to demonstrate to governments that they can trust someone to be tested in one country and present their results in another," said Paul Meyer, executive director of the nonprofit initiative CommonPass. This is to replace the current, paper-based method and prevent test results from being falsified.

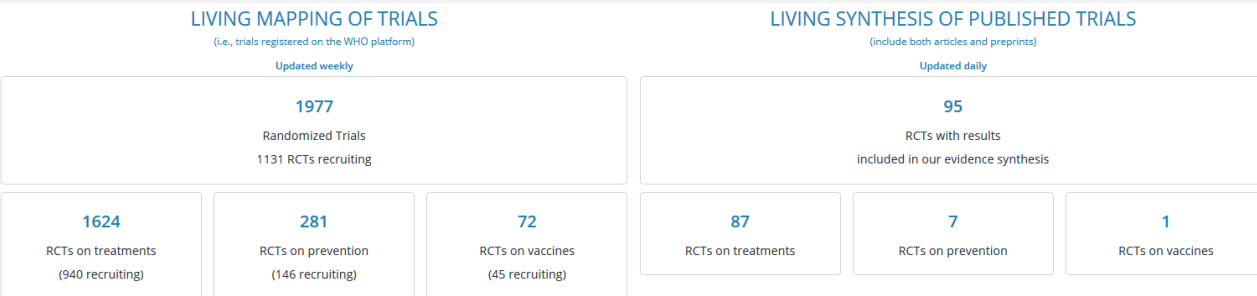
In order to receive a health pass, passengers have to download the corona test results from a certified laboratory to their smartphone and answer questions about their state of health. A QR code is then generated that airline employees and border officials can scan.

<https://www.healthcareglobal.com/technology-and-ai-3/ge-healthcare-launches-tech-critical-data-access>

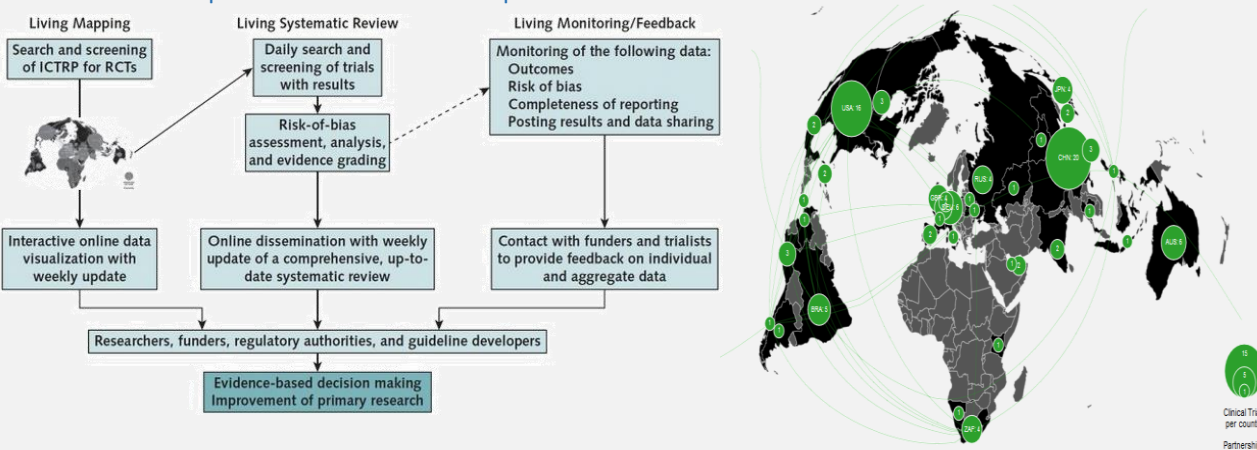


A living mapping and living systematic review of COVID-19 trials

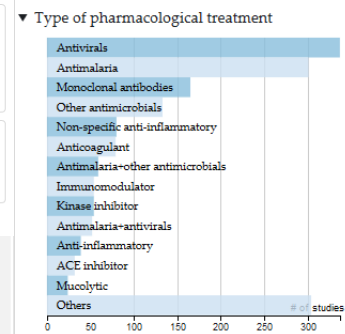
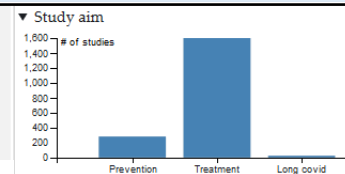
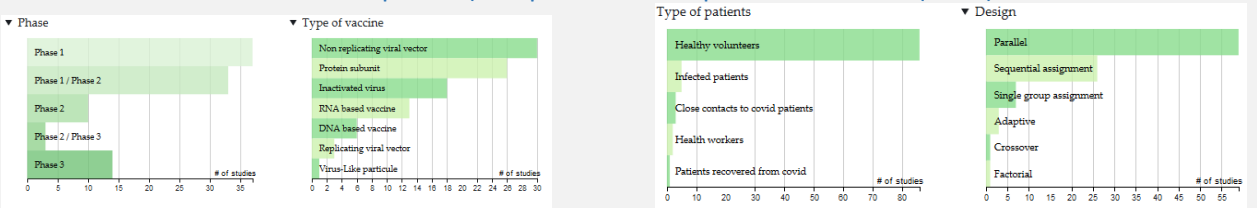
COVID-NMA is an international research initiative supported by the WHO and Cochrane. The side provide a living mapping of COVID-19 trials available through interactive data visualizations. It is also conducting living evidence synthesis on preventive interventions, treatments and vaccines for COVID-19 to assist decision makers. The side is weekly updated on Friday.



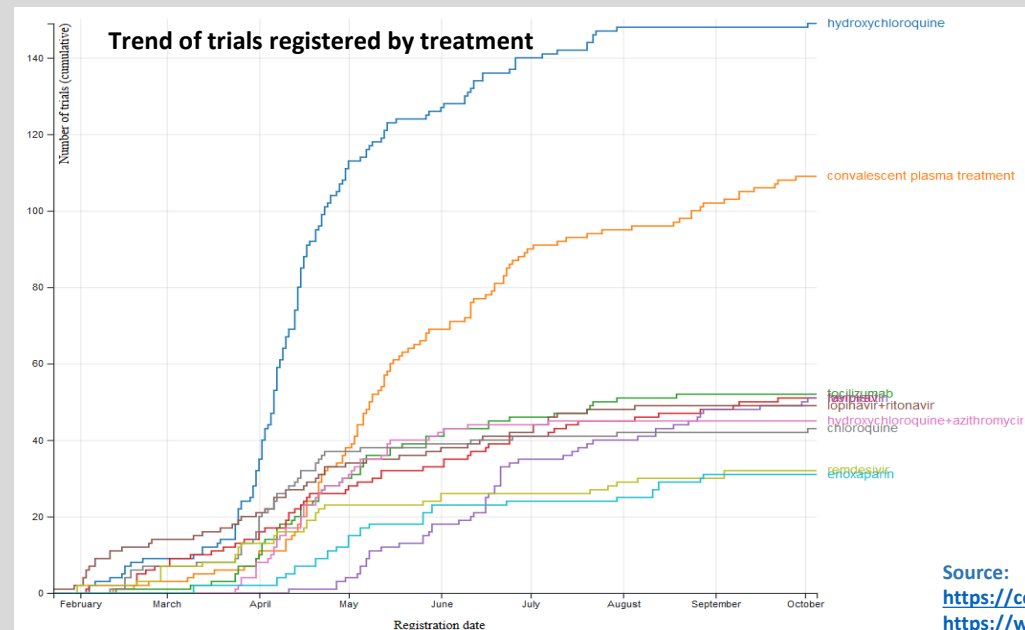
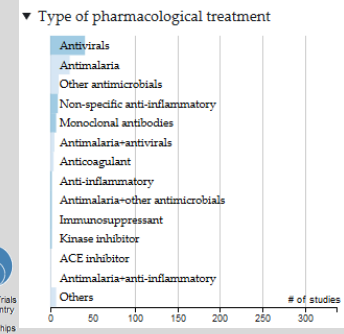
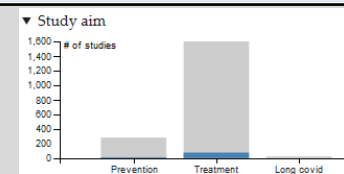
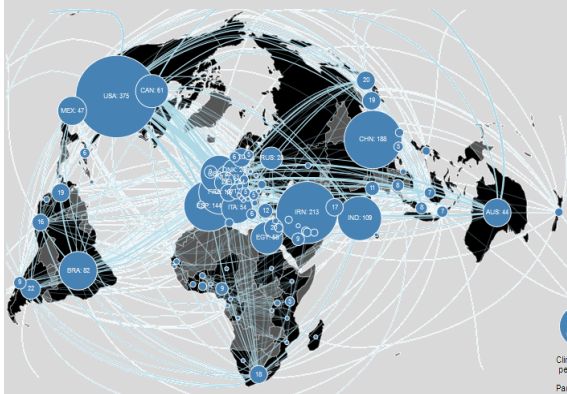
The COVID-NMA process is based on three pillars:



Information on vaccine development (not published and published studies (n=97))



Trial search can be divided in published studies (90 studies, see on the left side) And not published studies (1,815 studies see on the right side).



Source:
<https://covid-nma.com/>
<https://www.acpjournals.org>

In the press

This section aims at summarizing trending headlines with regards to COVID-19. The collection does not aim at being comprehensive and we would like to point out that headlines and linked articles are no scientific material and for information purposes only. The headlines and linked articles do not reflect NATO's or NATO MilMed COE FHPB's view. Feedback is welcome!

22nd October 2020

The Guardian

Remdesivir: US regulators approve first drug to treat Covid-19

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/22/us-regulators-approve-remdesivir-drug-to-treat-covid>

22nd October 2020

The Washington Post

How to keep kids active as the weather cools and the pandemic rolls on

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/2020/10/22/kids-activity-covid/>

21st October 2020

DW

Dogs detect coronavirus fast and reliably — why not use them everywhere?

<https://www.dw.com/en/dogs-detect-coronavirus-fast-and-reliably-why-not-use-them-everywhere/a-55340369>

21st October 2020

The Guardian

Women aged 50-60 at greatest risk of 'long Covid', experts suggest

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/21/women-aged-50-60-at-greatest-risk-of-long-covid-experts-suggest>

22nd October 2020

The Guardian

England to require ethnicity on death certificates to help tackle Covid-19

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/22/uk-to-require-ethnicity-on-birth-certificates-to-help-tackle-covid-19>

22nd October 2020

Aljazeera

Spike in South Korea flu shot deaths fuels vaccine doubts

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/10/22/spike-in-south-korea-flu-shot-deaths-fuelling-vaccine-doubts>

23rd October 2020

South China Morning Post

Scientists say some coronavirus vaccines under trial need screening for raising HIV risk

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3106697/scientists-say-some-covid-19-vaccines-under-trial-need>

23rd October 2020

Aljazeera

Recovered COVID-19 patients' plasma of little use in treatment

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/10/23/recovered-covid-19-patients-plasma-of-little-use-in-treatment>

THE NEW NORMAL



Be a role model. Show others the importance of cleaning hands, covering coughs and sneezes with a bent elbow, maintaining a distance of at least 1 metre from others and cleaning frequently touched objects and surfaces regularly.

Don't just say it,
Do it!

#StaySafe



The new normal!

In some places, as cases of COVID-19 go down, some control measures are being lifted.

But this doesn't mean we should go back to the 'old normal'.

If we don't stay vigilant and protect ourselves and others, coronavirus cases may go up again.

If we stop following the key protective measures, coronavirus can come rushing back.

Now, more than ever, it's important that we all follow our national health authority's advice and be part of helping to prevent coronavirus transmission.

Wherever you are, you still need to protect yourself against COVID-19.

Even as restrictions are lifted, consider where you are going and stay safe.



Avoid the Three C's



Be aware of different levels of risk in different settings.

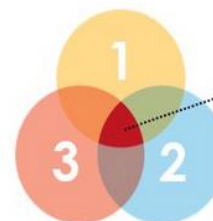
There are certain places where COVID-19 spreads more easily:



Crowded places
with many people nearby

Close-contact settings
Especially where people have close-range conversations

Confined and enclosed spaces
with poor ventilation



The risk is higher in places where these factors overlap.

Even as restrictions are lifted, consider where you are going and #StaySafe by avoiding the Three C's.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?



Avoid crowded places and limit time in enclosed spaces



Maintain at least 1m distance from others



When possible, open windows and doors for ventilation



Keep hands clean and cover coughs and sneezes



Wear a mask if requested or if physical distancing is not possible

If you are unwell, stay home unless to seek urgent medical care.



The perfect wave – why masks are still important



NEW STUDY ON MOUTH NOSE PROTECTION AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

Unfortunately, in the epicenter of the new hot spots areas often enough people are seen who do not adhere to the still valid protective regulations such as social distancing and the correct wearing of a nose and mouth protection. It could be as simple as that - [new studies](#) show that these two measures make a significant contribution to reducing the probability of transmission.

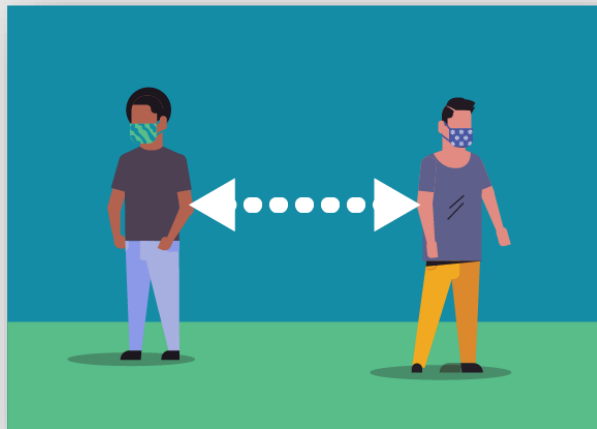
In the case of protective masks with an advertised protective effect in connection with SARS-CoV-2, depending on the intended purpose, a distinction is made between two types:

Medical face masks (MNS; surgical (surgical) masks); are primarily used for third-party protection and protect the person against the exposure of potentially infectious droplets of the person wearing the face mask. Corresponding MNS protect the wearer of the mask if the fit is tight, but this is not the primary purpose of MNS. This is e.g. used to prevent droplets from the patient's breathing air from getting into open wounds of a patient. Since, depending on the fit of the medical face mask, the wearer not only breathes in through the filter fleece, but the breathing air is drawn in as a leakage current past the edges of the MNS, medical face masks generally offer the wearer little protection against aerosols containing excitation. However, you can protect the mouth and nose area of the wearer from the direct impact of exhaled droplets from the other person as well as from pathogen transmission through direct contact with the hands.

Particle-filtering half masks (FFP masks); are objects of personal protective equipment (PPE) in the context of occupational safety and are intended to protect the wearer of the mask from particles, droplets and aerosols. The design of the particle-filtering half masks is different. There are masks without an exhalation valve and masks with an exhalation valve. Masks without a valve filter both the inhaled air and the exhaled air and therefore offer both internal and external protection, although they are primarily designed for internal protection only. Masks with valves only filter the inhaled air and therefore **offer no external protection!!!**

As a large number of unrecognized people move around in public spaces without symptoms, mouth and nose protection protects other people, thereby reducing the spread of the infection and thus indirectly reducing the risk of becoming infected

	Mouth and nose protection	FFP2/FFP3 mask without valve	FFP2/FFP3 mask with valve
Protects wearer of mask	Limited	✓	✓
Protects periphery	✓	✓	✗



Due to the occasion, it should be pointed out again and again, also by executives, that the correct way of wearing the mask is essential to achieve maximum protection. The mask wrong, e.g. for example, wearing it under the nose means accepting a possible infection of others.

FFP2 / 3 masks are still considered deficient equipment and should be kept available for healthcare workers and emergency services.

When wearing a facemask, don't do the following:



DON'T wear your facemask under your nose or mouth.

DON'T allow a strap to hang down. DON'T cross the straps.



DON'T touch or adjust your facemask without cleaning your hands before and after.

DON'T wear your facemask on your head.

DON'T wear your facemask around your neck.

DON'T wear your facemask around your arm.