



ጤና ሚኒስቴር - ኢትዮጵያ
MINISTRY OF HEALTH - ETHIOPIA
የዜጎች ጤና ለሃገር ብልጽግና
HEALTHIER CITIZENS FOR PROSPEROUS NATION



የኢትዮጵያ የሕብረተሰብ ጤና ኢንስቲትዩት
ETHIOPIAN PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE DAILY SITUATION REPORT ETHIOPIA

(Data reported as at 16:30hrs EAT (GMT+3), 14 March 2020)

14 March 2020

ISSUE
NO

51

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ethiopia reported its first COVID-19 confirmed case on March 13, 2020. Those who have been in contact with this case are being traced and quarantined.
- 5 alerts reported and four of them fulfill the suspected case definition and sample collected and being under investigation
- 1030 travelers are under follow-up; 195 travelers are newly enrolled
- 254 travelers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries screened
- The NDRMC team visited the EPHI's PHEOC
- COVID-19 preparedness and response discussed in the JSC to enhance regional preparedness efforts and engagement
- EDKs received from UNICEF and distributed for isolation and quarantine centers
- Orientation provided for people from culture and tourism, hotels and tour operators association
- Training provided for the Ethiopian Red Cross Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Volunteers

577,261

PASSENGERS SCREENED
ALL POEs Starting from 24 January 2020

7,849

PASSENGERS SCREENED
FROM COVID-19 REPORTING COUNTRIES

1,030

TRAVELERS
UNDER PHONE FOLLOW UP

166

RUMORS/Alerts
RECEIVED and INVESTIGATED

71

SUSPECTED CASES
DETECTED

57

SUSPECTED CASES
TESTED -ve

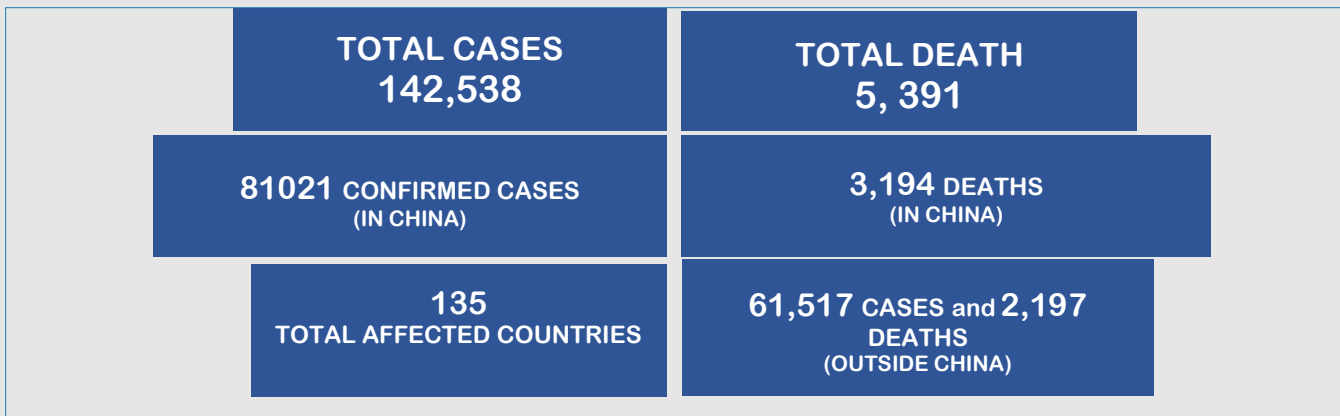
1

TOTAL CASE
CONFIRMED

13

SUSPECTED CASES IN THE
ISOLATION UNIT

COVID-19 GLOBAL UPDATE



Access link for WHO COVID-19 monitoring dashboard:

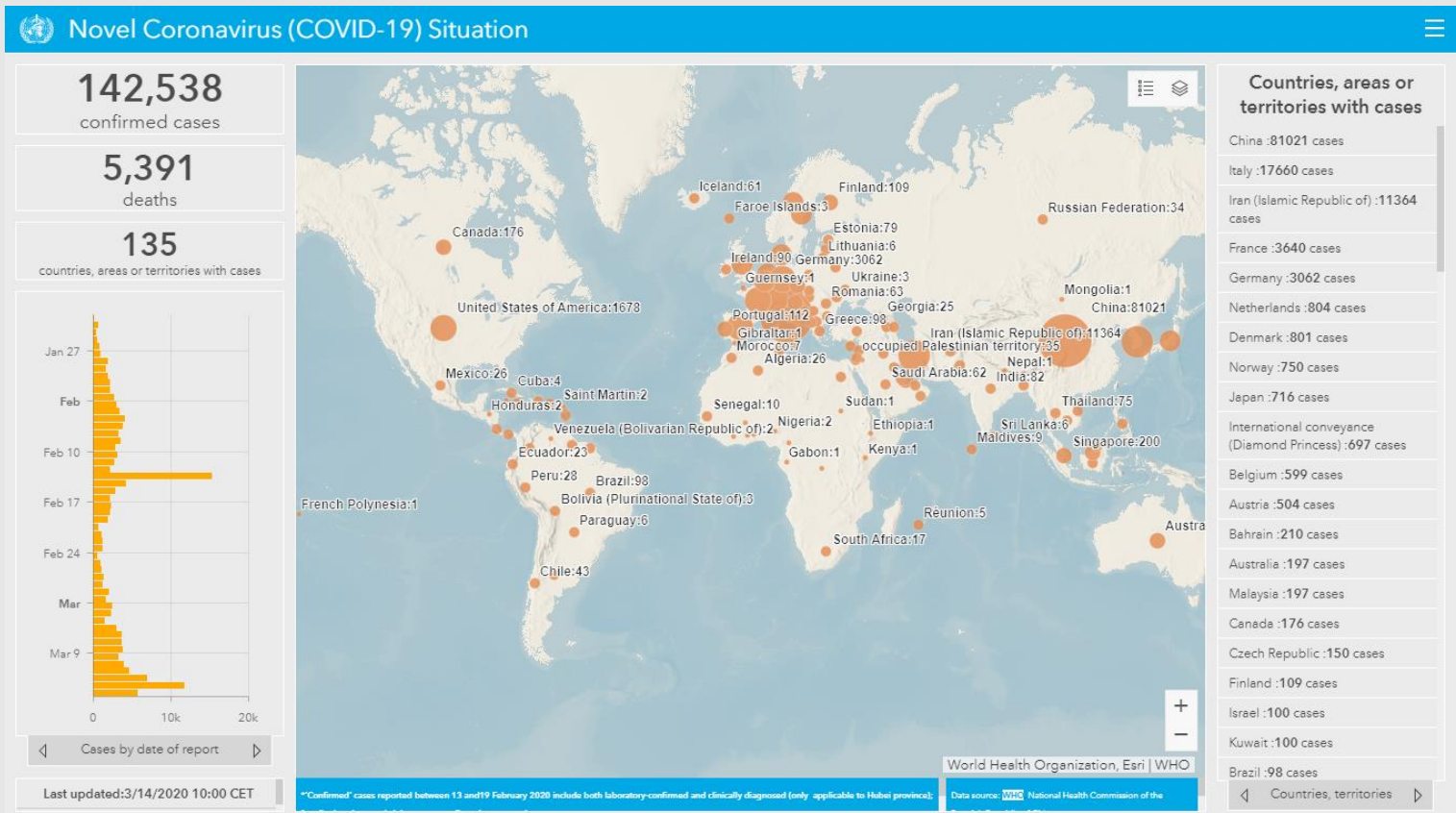
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/685d0ace521648f8a5beeeee1b9125cd>

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION'S RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATE

CHINA
VERY HIGH

REGIONAL LEVEL
VERY HIGH

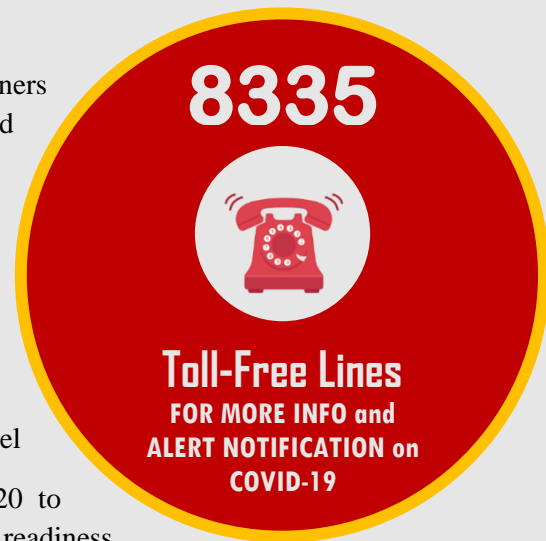
GLOBAL LEVEL
VERY HIGH



MAJOR COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS EFFORTS IN ETHIOPIA

BACKGROUND

- Ethiopia activated its IMS under the national PHEOC. WHO and its partners are currently supporting in scaling up preparedness efforts and implementation of related recommendations suggested by the IHR Emergency Committee. The following is a summary of the major public health actions conducted in ETHIOPIA up until now, as part of the COVID-19 preparedness and readiness efforts.
 - Alerting stakeholders and regular and national and global situation updating
 - Revitalizing coordination platform at national and subnational level
 - The National PHEOC IMS was activated on 27 January 2020 to optimize the national level coordination of the preparedness and readiness efforts,
 - Since its activation, the national PHEOC is collaboratively working with stakeholders: government agencies, partner organizations, UN agencies, embassies, hospitality sector, Industrial parks and others.
 - Regular media briefing sessions are being conducted, twice a week, by the Director General of EPHI and as needed by State Minister of MoH and jointly.
 - 24/7 Toll-free lines (8335) was established to provide information to and receive alert from; the public
 - Country preparedness assessment was conducted and emergency preparedness and response plan were developed
 - Designated isolation and quarantine centers are identified and equipping is ongoing
 - Protocols/guidelines are customized and developed
 - 24/7 rapid response team established
 - Trainings and orientations are ongoing
 - Strict PoE screening and vigilant follow-up procedures being implemented on incoming travelers at International Airports, Ethio-Djibouti Railway and land-crossing entries.
 - Key partners and stakeholders are identified and engaged in the preparedness efforts
 - Joint visit of Prime Minister Office, Africa CDC, WHO Country Office, Addis Ababa City Administration Health Bureau, Ministry of Health and EPHI was conducted to strengthen PoE preparedness and isolation and case management
 - MoH officials led by the State Minister, Dr Lia Tadesse, visited the operations of the national PHEOC and provided guidance on 04 February 2020.
 - With support from WHO; Ethiopia now has a capacity of processing confirmatory testing for COVID-19 at its strengthened National Influenza Laboratory based in EPHI (starting from 08 February 2020).
 - Minister Social Affairs standing committee of the House of Peoples' Representatives (HoPR) visited the National PHEOC on 17 FEB 2020; and received briefing on center's activities achieved and being conducted to prevent COVID-19 delivered by EPHI's Director General, Dr. Ebba Abate.
 - Health partners and donors' groups and China Embassy visited the Public Health Emergency Operation Center and briefed on the activities to prevent the COVID-19



- Discussion and briefing provided by the EPHI DG to the Medical Corps Representatives
- Strong communication network established and receiving updates from other countries through National IHR-FPs.
- Discussion was held with Resolve to Save Lives team, led by the Vice President of the project, and HOPE Project Coordinator on how to support COVID-19 preparedness efforts
- H. E. Deputy Prime Minister, State Minister of Ministry Peace and MOH State Minister visited the Public Health Emergency Operation Center at EPHI, Eka Kotobe Isolation Center and Bole International Airport screening activities and briefed on the COVID-19 preparedness activities on 7th March 2020
- Her Excellency Ministry of Health Minister and EPHI DG jointly declared the confirmation of the first COVID-19 case in Ethiopia on the 13 March 2020.
- The EPHI PHEOC team discussed with NDRMC staffs and briefed on the COVID-19 preparedness and response efforts and NDRMC EOC activation

COORDINATION and COLLABORATION

- Daily follow-up meeting led jointly by the MOH state minister and EPHI DG being conducted on daily basis
- IMS core staffs daily briefing ongoing regularly in the morning and afternoon
- A team from the NDRMC visited the EPHI's PHEOC and briefed on the COVID-19 preparedness and response and PHEOC operation activities
- Discussion was undertaken with the Ethiopian Immigration and Refugee Affairs to initiate screening at Addis Ababa Immigration
- The COVID-19 preparedness and response discussed during the Joint Screening Committee (JSC) meeting to enhance regional preparedness efforts and engagement

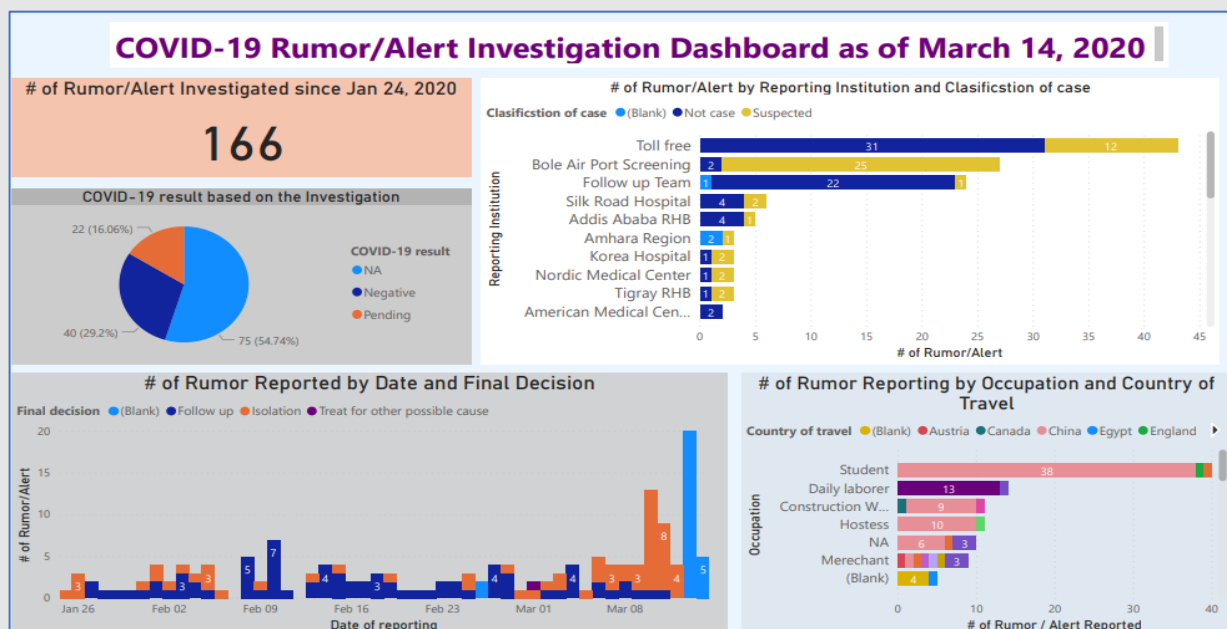
EPIDEMIOLOGY and LABORATORY SURVEILLANCE

FIRST CONFIRMED COVID-19 CASE UPDATE

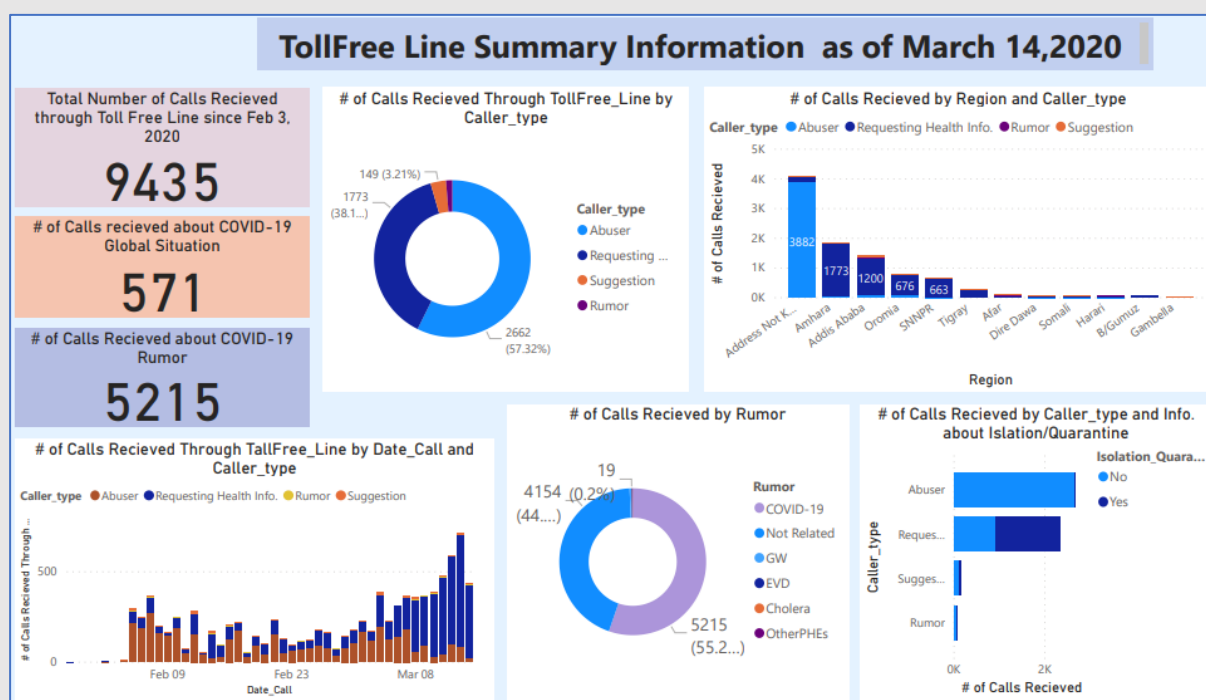
- Ethiopia reported its first COVID-19 confirmed case. The person found positive is a 48-year-old Japanese citizen who came to Ethiopia on March 04, 2020 from Burkina Faso. Those who have been in contact with this case are being traced and quarantined. The patient is currently isolated at the pre-designated isolation facility. He is undergoing medical follow-up and is in a stable condition.

Rumors collection and verification (through 8335 toll-free number and other sources)

- As of 14th of March 2020, a total of 166 alerts have been received and investigated. Of these, 71 have fulfilled the suspected case definition and 57 tested negative. One CONFIRMED case and thirteen samples laboratory result pending.
- On 14th of March 2020, 5 rumors/alerts were reported. Of these, four fulfill the suspected case definition and sample collected and under investigation.



- On 14th March 2020, a total of 607 calls are received through toll-free line. Of these, 553 (91.1%) were COVID-19 related calls. Four COVID-19 rumors received from toll free line today.



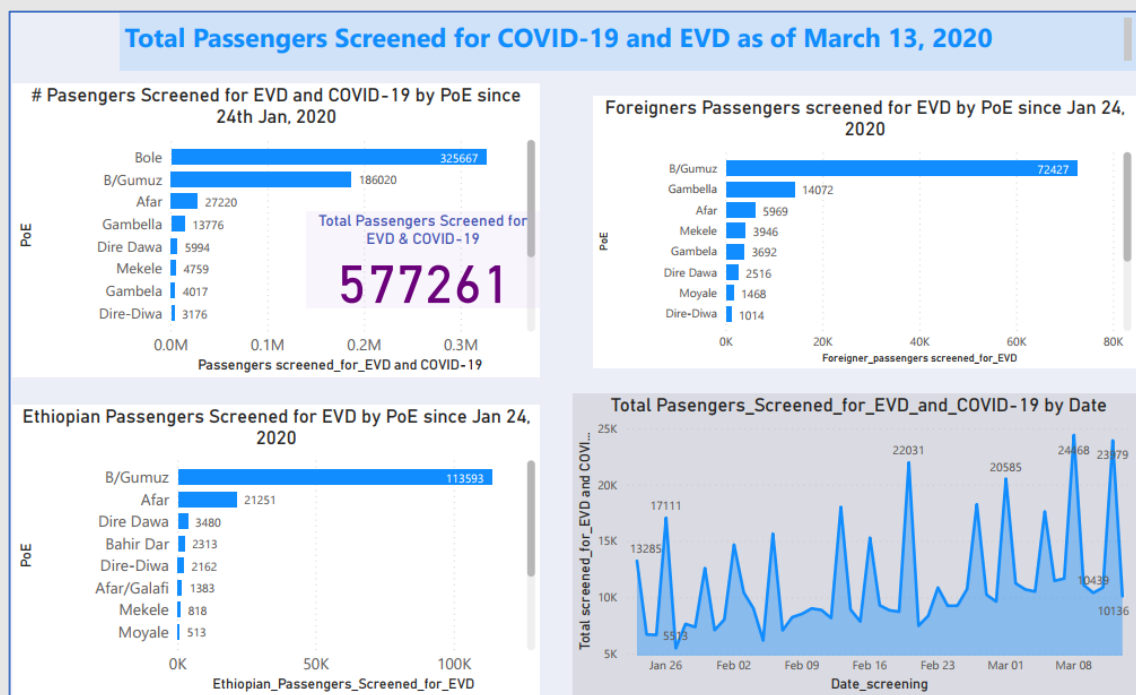
Phone Follow-Up of Travelers from Affected Countries

- As of the 14th of March 2020:
 - 1,030 travelers are under follow-up; 195 travelers are newly enrolled
 - 590 travelers (17 new) that were under follow-up departed back.
 - 1,205 travelers (42 new) have completed 14 days of follow-up and graduated from follow-up.

PASSENGERS SCREENING¹

- On the 13th of March 2020; **254** travelers who have travel history to COVID-19 affected countries have been screened (see the dashboard below for the total passenger screened).

¹ The date is lagging one day back as most of the international flights are at night and the reports are compiled and count on the following date.



OTHER POEs RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Uniform gowns prepared and distributed for health professional working at BIA screening sites
- Discussion was undertaken with the Ethiopian Immigration and Refugee Affairs to initiate screening at Addis Ababa Immigration for the immigrants
- COVID-19 information-business cards are provided for the ARRA main office to be distributed to the regional refugee camps.

CASE MANAGEMENT AND INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC):

- Medical support being provided for the confirmed case in the isolation centers and 13 suspected cases in the isolation center
- Rapid assessment was undertaken at the proposed isolation sites in Bishoftu town

LOGISTICS, ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES:

- Emergency Drug Kits (EDKs) were received from UNICEF and distributed for isolation and quarantine centers.
- Additional medical supplies are received from Ethiopian Pharmaceuticals Supply Agency (EPSA).

RISK COMMUNICATION:

- Brochures and banners of COVID-19 printed out
- Community disclosure guide is prepared
- A graphic designer is recruited to support the information communication material
- Key messages prepared and posted on the EPHI and MOH social media pages

TRAINING AND ORIENTATION RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Orientation was provided for about 54 people from culture and tourism, hotels and tour operators association from different regions
- Training provided for Ethiopian Red Cross Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Volunteers

REGIONAL PREPAREDNESS:

- One COVID-19 related alert received from Amhara regional state, while zero report received from other regions and city administrations.

MEDIA / WEB SCANNING:

- WHO PH: 2019-nCoV can survive both hot, humid climates: <https://news.mb.com.ph/2020/02/08/who-ph-2019-ncov-can-survive-both-hot-humid-climates/?fbclid=IwAR389svkrHu36uiunWWdwK1oVt5XjfXTPBcGende251ae9BFdOQ5zC6BeQ>
- **COVID19 and Newborn:**
 - Newborn infants deserve more concern due to their immature immune system and the possibility of mother to infant transmission (1).
 - Clinical manifestations of infected neonates, especially preterm infants, might be non-specific, which might include (1).
 - temperature instability, gastrointestinal and cardiovascular dysfunction,
 - Dominant respiratory problems and severe patients could rapidly develop acute respiratory distress syndrome.
 - Newborns are considered at high risk of COVID-19 in case that they are born to mothers diagnosed with COVID-19, or have close contact with someone with probable or confirmed COVID-19, or live in or travel to the epidemic area (1,2).
 - During temporary separation, mothers who intend to breastfeed should be encouraged to express their breast milk to establish and maintain milk supply (3,4).
- **COVID19 and Pregnancy**
 - Currently, there is no evidence that pregnant women are more susceptible to COVID-19 infection and that those with COVID-19 infection are more prone to developing severe pneumonia (5,6).
 - There is also no evidence of vertical mother-to-baby transmission of COVID-19 infection when the maternal infection manifests in the third trimester (5,7,8).
 - COVID-19 infection should not be the sole indication for delivery; rather, the patient should be duly assessed, and management, timing and mode of delivery should be individualized, dependent mainly on the clinical status of the patient, gestational age and fetal condition (9).

References:

1. Fang Li1,, Zhi Chun Feng, Yuan Shi. Proposal for prevention and control of the 2019 novel coronavirus disease in newborn infants. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1136/archdischild-2020-318996>
2. Shek CC , Ng PC , Fung GPG , et al . Infants born to mothers with severe acute respiratory syndrome. *Pediatrics* 2003;112:e254.doi:10.1542/peds.112.4.e254
3. World Health Organization. Interim clinical guidance for management of patients with confirmed 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infection, 2020. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/clinical-guidance-management-patients>.
4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, NCIRD. Interim Considerations for Infection Prevention and Control of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Inpatient Obstetric Healthcare Settings
5. H. YANG^{1,2}, C. WANG^{1,2} and L. C. POON^{3*} Novel coronavirus infection and pregnancy. *Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol* 2020 (wileyonlinelibrary.com). DOI: 10.1002/uog.22006
6. Frequently Asked Questions and Answers: Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) and Pregnancy. (NCIRD Division of Viral Diseases, CDC). March 6, 2020
7. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). Pregnant Women. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/>
8. Liu, W.; Wang, Q.; Zhang, Q.; Chen, L.; Chen, J.; Zhang, B.; Lu, Y.; Wang, S.; Xia, L.; Huang, L.; Wang, K.; Liang, L.; Zhang, Y.; Turtle, L.; Lissauer, D.; Lan, K.; Feng, L.; Yu, H.; Liu, Y.; Sun, Z. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) During Pregnancy: A Case Series. *Preprints* 2020, 2020020373

9. Qi H, Chen D, Feng L, Zou L, Li J. Obstetric considerations on delivery issues for pregnant women with COVID-19 infection. *Chin J Obstet Gynecol* 2020; 55: E001–E001

8335



Toll-Free Lines
FOR MORE INFO and
ALERT NOTIFICATION on
COVID-19



The above presented Quick Reader (QR) code takes you to a portal that you can access updates and all COVID-19 related information available
(<https://www.ephi.gov.et/index.php/public-health-emergency/novel-corona-virus-update>)

DISCLAIMER

Figures presented in this situation report are pulled from official releases of the World Health Organization, other sources from the web, as well as report compiled by the National Incidence Response Team

PREPARED BY

Belay Bezabih and Negusse Yohannis, PhD
National PHEOC, Planning Section, documentation Unit

EDITED and REVIEWED BY

Shambel Habebe (Planning Section Chief) and
Zewdu Assefa (COVID-19 Incident Manager)

FOR MORE INFORMATION and NOTIFICATION

Web: www.ephi.gov.et

Follow us on Twitter: @EPHIethiopia

Call: 8335 (TOLL FREE LINE) or 011 276 5340

Email: ephieoc@gmail.com or phemdatacenter@gmail.com

ETHIOPIAN PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTE

National Public Health Emergency Operation Center
Center for Public Health Emergency Management
Swaziland Street

P.O Box 1242
Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA

WITH A TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM



**World Health
Organization**

ETHIOPIA COUNTRY OFFICE