

responsible for MERS-CoV and SARS-CoV (3). The newly emerged SARS-CoV-2 is a group 2B coronavirus (2). The genome sequences of SARS-CoV-2 obtained from patients share 79.5% sequence similarity to the sequence of SARS-CoV (63).

As of 13 May 2020, a total of 4,170,424 confirmed cases of COVID-19 (with 287,399 deaths) have been reported in more than 210 affected countries worldwide (WHO Situation Report 114