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Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

©

Overview

Links and resources

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic is a global outbreak of coronavirus – an infectious disease caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).

Cases of novel coronavirus (nCoV) were first detected in China in December 2019, with the virus spreading rapidly to other countries across the world. This led WHO to declare a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) on 30 January 2020 and to characterize the outbreak as a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

On 5 May 2023, more than three years into the pandemic, the WHO Emergency Committee on COVID-19 recommended to the Director-General, who accepted the recommendation, that given the

disease was by now well established and ongoing, it no longer fit the definition of a PHEIC. This does not mean the pandemic itself is over, but the global emergency it caused is – for now. A review committee will be established to develop long-term, standing recommendations for countries on how to manage COVID-19 on an ongoing basis.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic started, over 2 million people in the European Region have died from the disease.

On 25 October 2023 WHO/Europe made several changes to its respiratory virus surveillance and data reporting systems. The COVID-19 Situation Dashboard played a pivotal role in providing essential information during the early stages of the pandemic. However, the landscape has now shifted, and so have data needs.

A new WHO/Europe COVID-19 Information Hub is replacing the previous COVID-19 Situation Dashboard to serve as a comprehensive resource, providing links to the most current health information, datasets and products concerning COVID-19.

Within the Hub, WHO/Europe and the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)'s weekly European Respiratory Virus Surveillance Summary (ERVISS) displays integrated surveillance data for influenza, COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) in the WHO European Region, including the European Union (EU)/European Economic Area (EEA).

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Statement – COVID-19 vaccines saved at least 1.4 million lives in the European Region



16 January 2024 | Media release

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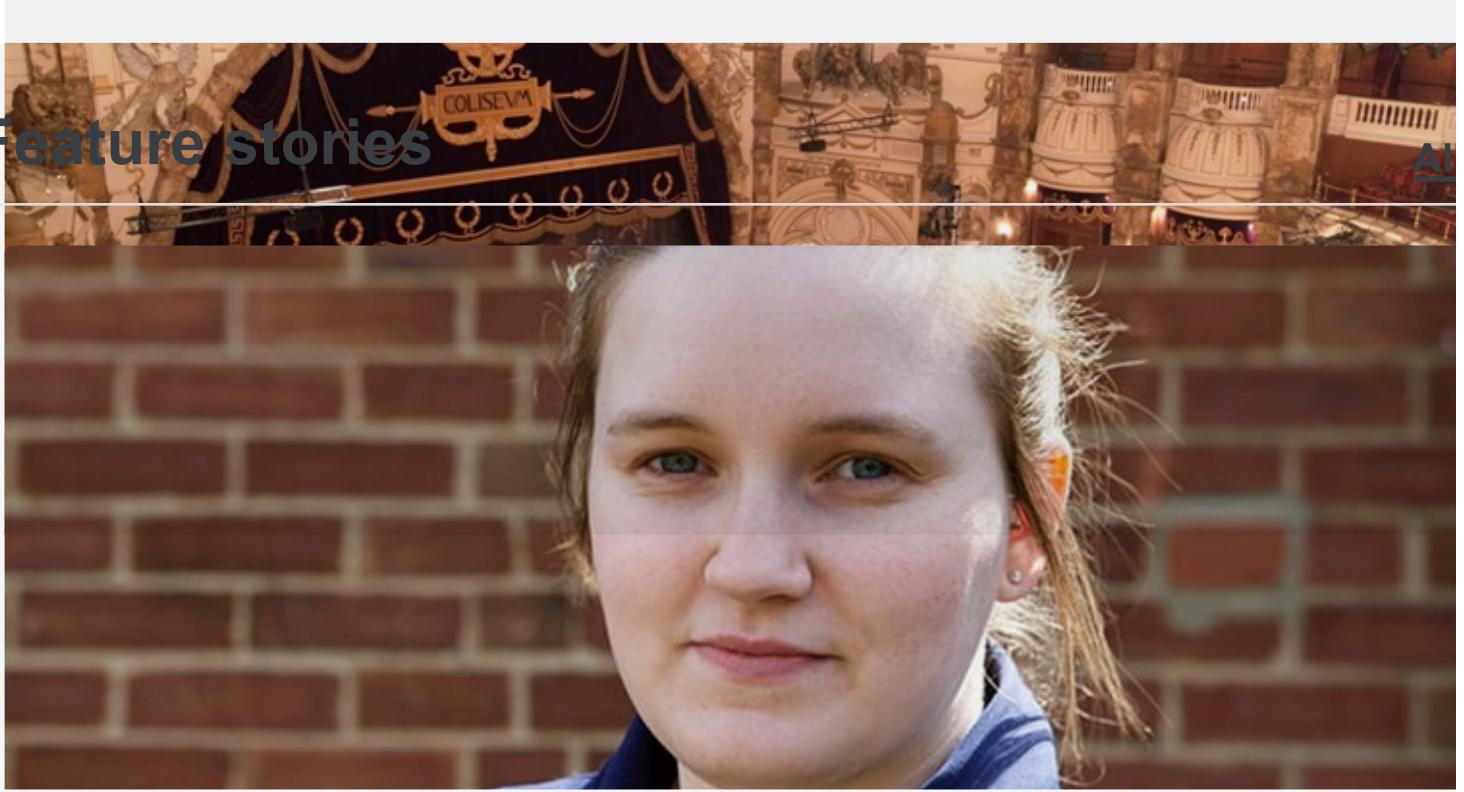
Vaccinations have saved more than 1.4 million lives in the WHO European Region, a new study finds



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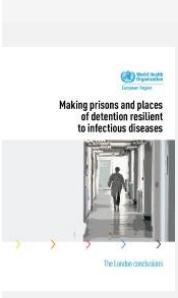
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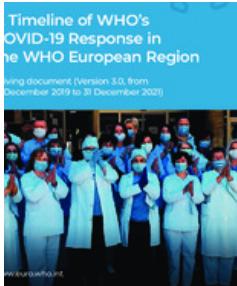
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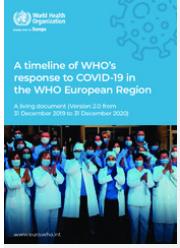


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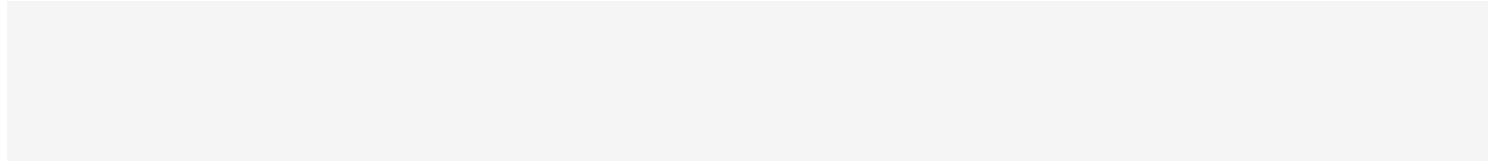
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WHO remains committed to learning more about long COVID and to finding ways to improve the medium- and long-term outcomes for people affected by it, as Dr Hans Henri P. Kluge ...



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The CO-FLOW long COVID study at Erasmus MC, Rotterdam, Netherlands



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WHO/Europe Virtual Press Briefing, 10 Jan 2023 - Statement from the Regional Director, Dr Hans Kluge

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Living with long COVID



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Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic (Global)

Media contacts

For COVID-19 enquiries contact (7 days a week): WHO/Europe Press Office
Tel.: +49 228 815 0432

Email address: eupress@who.int