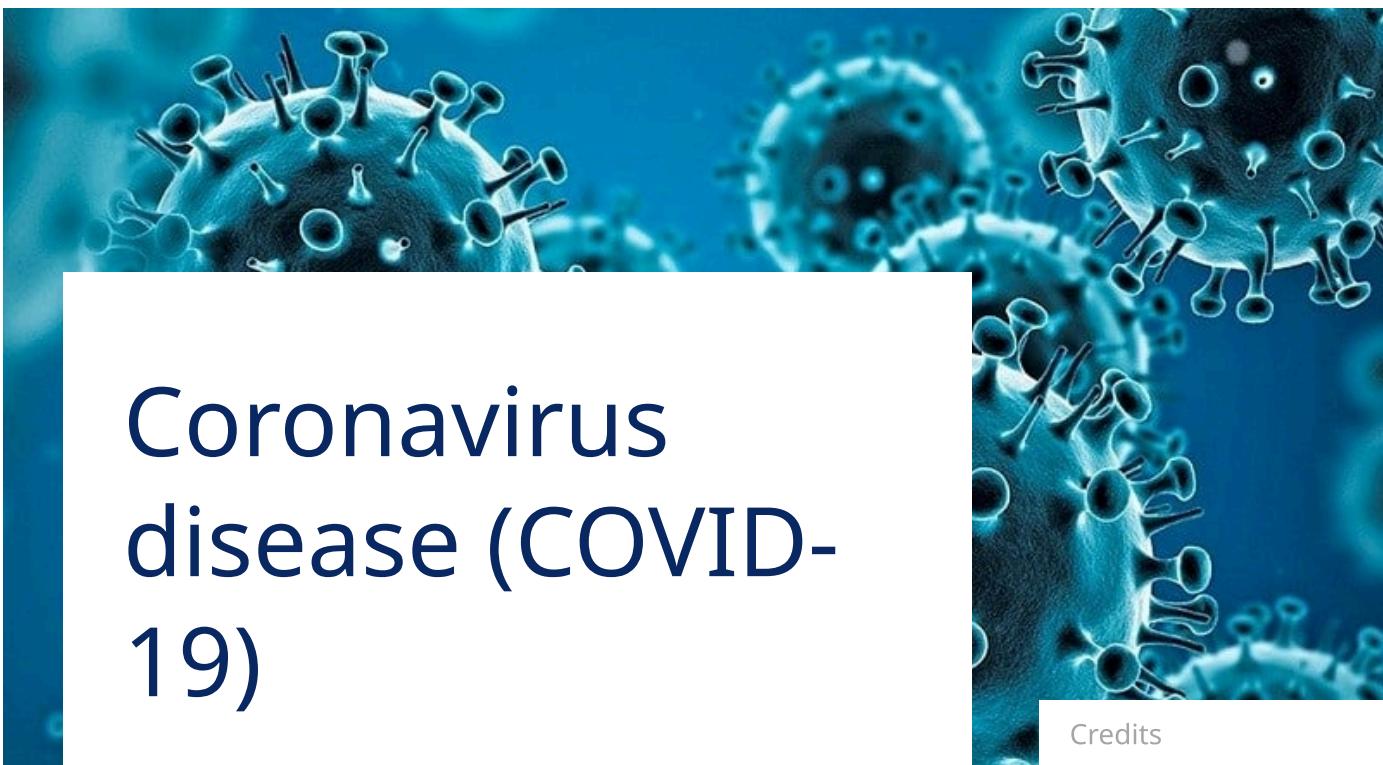


There is a current outbreak of Coronavirus (COVID-19) disease

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Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

Credits

[Overview](#)

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Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Most people infected with the virus will experience mild to moderate respiratory illness and recover without requiring special treatment. However, some will become seriously ill and require medical attention. Older people and those with underlying medical conditions like cardiovascular disease, diabetes, chronic respiratory disease, or cancer are more likely to develop serious illness. Anyone can get sick with COVID-19 and become seriously ill or die at any age.

The best way to prevent and slow down transmission is to be well informed about the disease and how the virus spreads. Protect yourself and others from infection by staying at least 1 metre apart from others, wearing a properly fitted mask, and washing your hands or using an alcohol-based rub frequently. Get vaccinated when it's your turn and follow local guidance.

The virus can spread from an infected person's mouth or nose in small liquid particles when they cough, sneeze, speak, sing or breathe. These particles range from larger respiratory droplets to smaller aerosols. It is important to practice respiratory etiquette, for example by coughing into a flexed elbow, and to stay home and self-isolate until you recover if you feel unwell.

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- [Advice for the public](#)
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- [Situation reports](#)
- [All information on the COVID-19 outbreak](#)

Fact sheets



Questions and answers



Databases and tools



Emergency situations



Initiatives and groups



Training



30 July 2025 | Departmental update

**Paying tribute to David
Nabarro**

27 June 2025 | News release

**WHO Scientific advisory
group issues report on
origins of COVID-19**

17 June 2025 | News release

**The WHO Hub in Berlin:
driving innovation to make**

15 May 2025 | Statement

**Statement on the antigen
composition of COVID-19**

Publications

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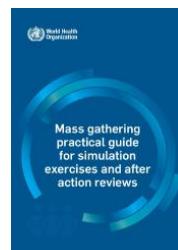


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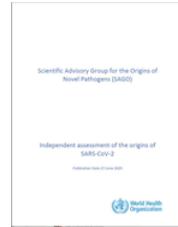


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Our work

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Promoting a fair and
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Promoting the health of
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during COVID-19 pandemic

Preparing and preventing
epidemics and pandemics

Feature stories

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4 June 2025

[**What's in a vaccine?**](#)

28 March 2025

[**Donors making a difference to maternal health & newborn health: the urgent drive to save women's lives across the world**](#)

Infographics

[Infographic](#)

[**Diagnostic testing for SARS-CoV-2 infection**](#)

[Infographic](#)

[**Why testing is important?**](#)

Videos

20 October 2023

Pandemic preparedness: Introducing WHO's Investigations and Studies (Unity Studies) approach

5 June 2023

Nurses Facing COVID - 2023 Health Emergencies "GRAND PRIX" at the 4th Health for All Film Festival

14 October 2022

WHO's Science in 5: Older adults and COVID-19 vaccines - 14 October 2022

3 June 2022

WHO's Science in 5 on COVID-19: Genome Sequencing

Events

Post COVID-19 condition: Science, Research and Policy

 20 November 2024 16:00 – 17:00 CET

INB-related interactive dialogues

 3 – 4 September 2024

Related links

COVID-19 vaccines

Vaccines explained series
