



GUIDELINES AND RESEARCH UPDATES



TECHNICAL DOCUMENTS:

D1. WHO SAGE roadmap for prioritizing uses of COVID-19 vaccines in the context of limited supply (WHO, 16 July) [[LINK](#)]

- This Roadmap builds on the WHO SAGE values framework for the allocation and prioritization of COVID-19 vaccination. It intends to assist in developing recommendations for use of vaccines against COVID-19. SAGE proposes a Roadmap for Prioritizing Uses of COVID-19 Vaccines that considers priority populations for vaccination based on epidemiologic setting and vaccine supply scenarios.

D2. WHO technical consultation on oxygen access scale-up for COVID-19 (WHO, 14 July) [[LINK](#)]

- This document identifies gaps and further actions to scale up access to medical oxygen. The consultation facilitated the understanding of the critical challenges of oxygen sources and distribution systems and highlighted the need for operational guidance to scale up, in an efficient, transparent and sustainable manner in the short term, for the COVID-19 surge, but with a long-term vision beyond the current emergency response.

D3. Clinical features and prognostic factors of COVID-19 in people living with HIV hospitalized with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection (WHO, 15 July) [[LINK](#)]

- This report describes the demographics, clinical presentation, clinical outcomes, and risk factors among people living with HIV (PLHIV) who have been hospitalized for suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

D4. Guidance on utilization of COVID-19 vaccines before the date of expiry (WHO, 18 July) [[LINK](#)]

- This document enables countries to- (a) closely monitor vaccine utilization with respect to the expiry dates; and (b) proposes options for accelerating vaccine utilization, thereby mitigating the risks of closed-vial wastage.

D5. Guidance for clinical case management of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia syndrome (TTS) following vaccination to prevent coronavirus disease (COVID-19) (WHO, 19 July) [[LINK](#)]

- This document deals about Thrombotic Thrombocytopenia Syndrome (TTS) in the context of COVID-19 vaccination and help healthcare providers in the assessment and management of potential TTS cases.

D6. Health financing for the COVID-19 response (WHO, 29 July) [[LINK](#)]

- This Process Guide lays out a sequenced set of analytics and actions to support reorienting budgetary arrangements to facilitate the ability of national governments to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic by delivering therapeutics, diagnostics, and vaccine services to their populations.

D7. Social isolation and loneliness among older people: advocacy brief (WHO, 29 July) [[LINK](#)]

- This advocacy brief on social isolation and loneliness among older people highlights the growing public health and policy concern about these issues, which have been made more salient by the COVID-19 pandemic. The brief summarizes the scale, impact, and harms of social isolation and loneliness among older people, and outlines what can be done to reduce them.

JOURNAL ARTICLES

J1. Acceptability of a COVID-19 vaccine and role of knowledge, attitudes and beliefs on vaccination willingness among medical students (The European Research Journal, 4 July) [[LINK](#)]

- The study assessed the acceptability of the COVID-19 vaccine and the effect of attitudes, perception and beliefs on vaccination willingness among medical students. The authors observed that majority of the study population were willing to be vaccinated, one-third of medical students were hesitant about vaccination. Education, positive attitude and beliefs were related to higher willingness to vaccination.

J2. Examining vaccine hesitancy in Sub-saharan Africa: A survey of the knowledge and attitudes among adults to receive COVID-19 vaccines in Ghana (MDPI, 22 July) [[LINK](#)]

- This study explored adult citizens' vaccine hesitancy attitudes and identified the likelihood of participation or non-participation in the government's effort to get citizens vaccinated. The study concludes that about half (51%) of mostly urban adult over 15 years are likely to take the COVID-19 vaccine if made available. Almost a fifth (21%) of the respondents were unlikely to take the vaccine, while another 28% were undecided. There are differences in vaccine hesitancy among some socio-demographic characteristics such as age, gender, and primary sources of information.

J3. Characterization of in-hospital complications associated with COVID-19 using the ISARIC WHO Clinical Characterization Protocol UK: a prospective, multicentre cohort study (The Lancet, 17 July) [[LINK](#)]

- The study aimed to characterize the extent and effect of COVID-19 complications, particularly in those who survive, using the International Severe Acute Respiratory and Emerging Infections Consortium WHO Clinical Characterization Protocol. The study concludes that complications and worse functional outcomes in patients admitted to hospital with COVID-19 are high, even in young. Acute complications are associated with reduced ability to self-care at discharge, with neurological complications being associated with the worst functional outcomes.

J4. Global minimum estimates of children affected by COVID-19-associated orphanhood and deaths of caregivers: a modelling study (The Lancet, 20 July) [LINK]

- The study aimed to provide estimates for the magnitude of problem among children orphaned by COVID-19 or deaths of caregivers. The findings highlight that orphanhood and deaths of caregivers are a hidden pandemic resulting from COVID-19-associated deaths. These data show the need for an additional pillar of our response: prevent, detect, respond, and care for children.

J5. Association between mood disorders and risk of COVID-19 infection, hospitalization, and death: A systematic review and meta-analysis (JAMA Psychiatry, 28 July) [LINK]

- This study assessed whether pre-existing mood disorders are associated with a higher risk of COVID-19 susceptibility, hospitalization, severe complications, and death. The results of this systematic review and meta-analysis suggests that individuals with pre-existing mood disorders are at higher risk of COVID-19 hospitalization and death and should be categorized as an at-risk group on the basis of a pre-existing condition.

J6. Improving prediction of COVID-19 evolution by fusing epidemiological and mobility data (Scientific Reports, 26 July) [LINK]

- This study evaluates different models for the early prediction of the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic to create a decision support system for policymakers. It considers a wide branch of models including artificial neural networks. A multivariate model that includes mobility data provided by Google is proposed to better forecast trend changes in the 14-day Cumulative Incidence (CI).

J7. Long Covid—mechanisms, risk factors, and management (BMJ, 26 July) [LINK]

- This study reviewed the long-term effects of covid-19 in hospitalized and non-hospitalized patients and describes the persistent symptoms they endure. It concludes that long Covid remains enigmatic and, with the question of the impact that new variants of covid-19 will have on the incidence and severity of long Covid still looming large, it is important that research continues to explore post-Covid-19 syndrome.