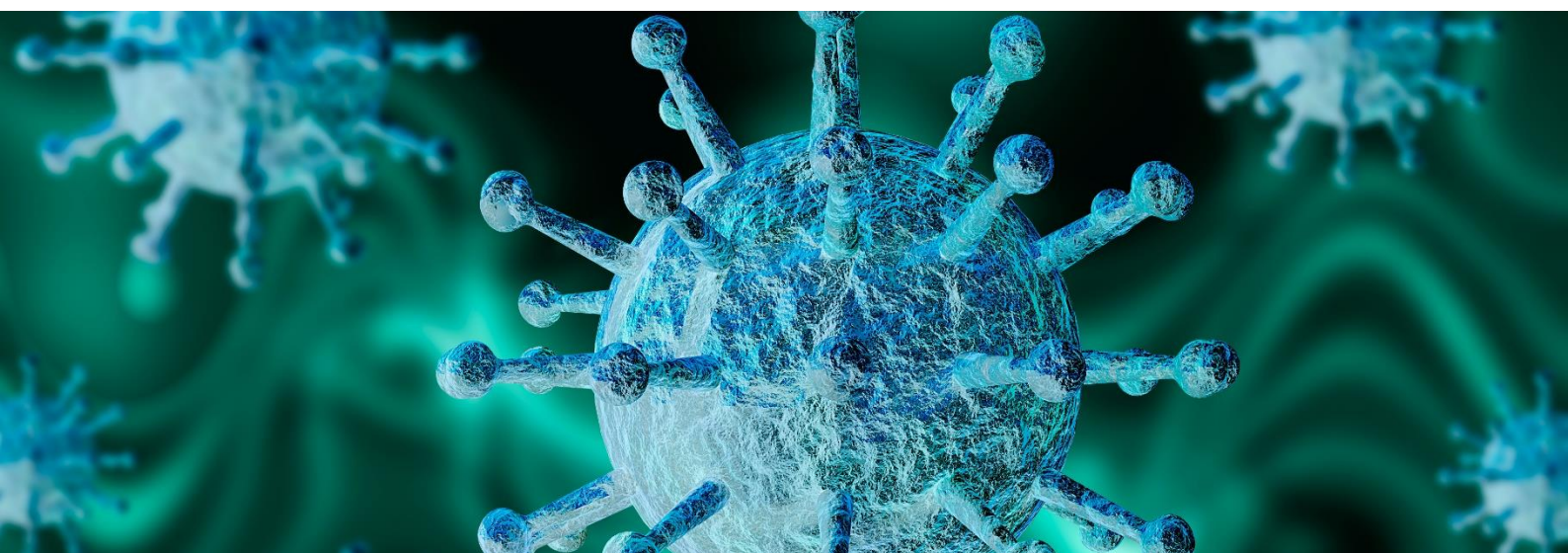


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Welcome

We are now three months in to 2021 and countries are continuing to fight the COVID-19 pandemic globally. So far 2021 has seen many countries ramp up their fight by implementing fast acting vaccination programs to attempt to handle the increase in cases daily.

However, vaccinations are not the only way to end the pandemic. Countries continue to implement lockdowns to help stop the spread of the virus. The World Health Organisation continues to advise regular handwashing, mask wearing and social distancing to help decrease the number of cases.

We sincerely hope that all our members and their families are safe and healthy during this difficult time!

The Global Health Security Network Board

Our Mission

Our mission is to create an international community of academics, scientists and policy-makers who seek to share their knowledge and research on global health security.

We encourage free thinking and support those that wish to make a meaningful impact to improve the health and well-being of all people globally.

The GHSN community is an opportunity to engage with members, sharing their ideas through the Association and at GHSN events around the world.

Upcoming GHSN Events

Vaccine equity: the defining challenge of our times.

7 May 2021 – 6PM AEST/9AM BST

COVID-19 has had a huge impact across the world. Over the past twelve months it has become clear that we need to use all legal and public health tools available to get vaccines to those who need them most as swiftly as we can.



Australian National University



Global Health Security Network



Some, however, suggest that limited vaccine supplies are being allocated based on wealth and geography, rather than by science, public health, or human need. The issues of vaccine distribution and "vaccine nationalism" are substantial and highly controversial.

We are delighted to welcome Dr Peter Singer, Special Advisor to the Director General and Assistant Director General of the World Health Organization, to speak about vaccine equity as the defining challenge of our times.

This event is co-hosted with the Global Health Security Network, Australian National University, the Intellectual Forum at Jesus College, and the University of Cambridge ThinkLab.

ANNOUNCEMENT Coming Soon!



GHS
INNOVATION
WEEK 2021

FOLLOW OUR ACTIVITIES



A microscopic view of various bacteria, including rod-shaped and spherical forms, rendered in a blue and cyan color scheme. The bacteria are shown in various orientations and depths of focus, creating a sense of depth and movement.

Latest Health Security News

India's second wave

India reported over 47,000 cases on 24 March - the sharpest daily rise so far this year, raising concerns that India is in the middle of a far more severe and intense second wave. Experts have speculated that the second wave is being fuelled by government mixed messaging leading to people being less cautious. They believe the government itself must take its share of the blame for allowing reckless behaviour in the population.

After a year of lockdowns many Indian's have chosen to take part in weddings and family events without taking the necessary COVID precautions. Dr Kalantri (Medical Superintendent of Kasturba Hospital) suggested "It is behavioural fatigue. This has led to a dangerous form of fatalism, and the propensity to take risks. The virus seems to have become more transmissible in the second wave. We are admitting entire families who are infected. We are also seeing a lot of young people, aged below 40, getting sick."

Also, a new "double mutant" variant of the coronavirus has now been detected from samples collected in India. Officials are checking if the variant, where two mutations come together in the same virus, may be more infectious or less affected by vaccines. Around 10,000 samples from 18 Indian states also showed up 771 cases of known variants.

WHO Investigation into Virus origins

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus has announced that further investigation is needed to conclusively rule out the theory that Covid-19 emerged from a laboratory in China. The WHO-led team said the virus had probably been transmitted from bats to humans through another animal and that a lab leak was "extremely unlikely" as a cause. Although a lab leak has been considered as the least likely cause, further research was required.

The investigation that took place in Jan-Feb this year by World Health Organisation investigators saw data withheld from them causing concern. One of the investigators expressed concerns that China had refused to release raw data on early COVID-19 cases, complicating efforts to understand the origins of the pandemic. 14 countries immediately called for China to allow the independent experts full access to the data from the original outbreak in late 2019. "In my discussions with the team, they expressed the difficulties they encountered in accessing raw data," Dr Tedros said. "I expect future collaborative studies to include more timely and comprehensive data sharing."



Latest Health Security News

International Pandemic Treaty

The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that there has never been a more critical time for developing new solutions for preparing and responding to future global health threats. More than 20 leaders worldwide have joined together to call for a new global settlement to help the world prepare for future pandemics. German chancellor Angela Merkel and French president Emmanuel Macron, said Covid posed the biggest challenge since World War Two, showing that "This has been a stark and painful reminder that nobody is safe until everyone is safe."

A new treaty would help to establish better systems for alerting people about potential pandemics, while also improving the sharing of data and distribution of vaccines and personal protective equipment. "There will be other pandemics and other major health emergencies in the future. No single government or multilateral agency can address this threat alone. The question is not if, but when."

Global Covid-19 cases increase for fifth consecutive week

Fears of further waves globally have been realised this week with Maria van Kerkhove, the World Health Organization's technical lead for coronavirus response, expressing concerns that global cases of Covid-19 have risen for the fifth consecutive week, and that WHO is seeing worrying trends in Europe, as well as number of other areas.

Speaking at a news briefing "Four of our five WHO regions are seeing an increase in transmission. This is the fifth week in a row globally that we have seen an increase in transmission. In the last week, cases have increased by 8%."

Current statistics show Europe saw a 12% increase, Southeast Asia 49% increase, Eastern Mediterranean 8% increase and Western Pacific 29% increase.

Maria van Kerkhove also noted that "The Americas and Africa have seen a slight decline in the last seven days. But, overall, we're seeing increasing trends and these are worrying trends."

Make sure you visit ghsn.org/news for latest news and updates!

Upcoming Global Health Meetings

ARPIIL 2021

9th World Congress on Public Health, Epidemiology & Nutrition
8-9 April 2021
Remote

Global Health & Innovation Conference 2021
8-11 April 2021
Remote

ELEVATE PX
26-29 April 2021
Remote

Infectious Diseases in Adults 2021
26-30 April 2021
Online, US

3rd EUFEMED Conference
28-30 April 2021
Remote

MAY 2021

Preventive Health Conference 2021
10-12 May 2021
Hybrid, Australia

1st International Conference on Public Health in Africa
12-14 May 2021
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

AAMP Spring– Advanced Infectious Disease Management
21-23 May 2021
Hybrid, US

Seventy-fourth World Health Assembly
24-31 May 2021
Remote

Gordon Research Seminar - Malaria
29-30 May 2021
Les Diablerets, Switzerland

12th Australasian Viral Hepatitis Conference
30 May – 1 June 2021
Brisbane, Australia

JUNE 2021

Junior Scientist Zoonoses Meeting 2021
3-4 June 2021
Remote

6th SA TB Conference
5-7 June 2021
Remote

World Health Care Congress
8-10 June 2021
Remote

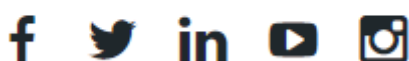
G7 Summit 2021
11-13 June 2021
Remote

15th Infectious Diseases Congress & Tropical Medicine
16-19 June 2021
Remote

GHS Innovation Week
21-25 June 2021
Remote

17th National Immunisation Conference 2021
29 June – 1 July 2021
Perth, Australia

FOLLOW OUR ACTIVITIES





We want to hear from you!

Whilst preparing for next years Global Health Security Conference 2022 the GHSN Board of Directors are considering how best we can serve our members and our community.

We encourage all GHSN members and GHS2019 delegates to submit any suggestions or ideas as to what you would like to see from the Global Health Security Network.

All suggestions are welcome and will be considered!

Together we can build GHSN into an association fit for all!

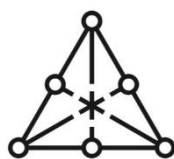
Email Suggestions
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