

COVID-19 EU update

European Commission

- [EU gateway for COVID Certificate goes live in seven countries](#): On 1 June, seven EU Member States – Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Croatia and Poland – have connected to the technical gateway and started issuing first EU certificates. Certain countries have decided to launch the EU Digital COVID Certificate only when all functions are deployed nationwide. The Regulation will apply from 1 July. An updated overview with a map is available on a dedicated Commission [webpage](#).
- [European Commission proposes update to coordinated travel measures ahead of summer](#): In response to the European Council's conclusions last week, the European Commission has proposed updates to the Council Recommendation on the coordination of free movement restrictions in the EU. These foresee that persons holding vaccine certificates in line with the EU digital COVID certificate (that is attesting status as fully vaccinated, recovered or tested negative) should be exempt from travel-related testing or quarantine. Member States may exercise an emergency brake in case of significant changes to the epidemiological situation, especially in relation to variants. The proposal also provides updates the thresholds used by ECDC in its colour-coded assessment of Member States' risk profile as well as the travel recommendations relating to each code.

EMA

- EMA published a targeted consultation on the naming proposals for COVID-19 variant vaccine qualifiers in order to identify potential issues at the level of prescribing, dispensing and general understanding that would prevent the safe and optimal use of these products. Please see more details [here](#). The feedback should be provided by midday on Friday, 11 June 2021. Please send the completed [form](#) directly to HCPsecretariat@ema.europa.eu or to secretariat@cpme.eu and we will forward it to EMA.
- EMA [recommends](#) extending the use of Comirnaty to include children aged 12 to 15.
- EMA [publishes](#) a direct healthcare professional communication (DHPC) following its additional advice on blood clots and low blood platelets occurring after vaccination with Vaxzevria.
- The EU Executive Steering Group [provides](#) recommendations to help EU Member States forecast demand for medicines during this pandemic and similar global health emergencies.

ECDC

- ECDC [presents](#) evidence on the impact of COVID-19 on migrant populations in EU countries, risk factors for increased COVID-19 exposure in migrant populations, and considerations for ensuring equitable access to the COVID-19 vaccine for migrant populations.
- ECDC [publishes](#) a report addressing the safety of donors and products involving Substances of Human Origin and the potential risk of thrombosis with thrombocytopenia adverse events following COVID-19 vaccination of a donor.
- ECDC [provides](#) a set of interim public health considerations to support EU public health authorities taking decisions on the administration of COVID-19 vaccines to adolescents (12- to 18-year-olds). As new evidence is continuously being generated and safety monitored on an ongoing basis, it is essential to consider the latest available information and recommendations issued by regulatory and public health authorities at national level. The focus of this document is on the overall potential public health impact, rather than on the individual benefits and risks, of COVID-19 vaccination in adolescents.

OECD

- [The effect of COVID-19 on alcohol consumption, and policy responses to prevent harmful alcohol consumption](#): The policy brief reports on changed drinking patterns and increases in alcohol consumption while highlighting policy measures, particularly in the area of prevention, which governments can adopt to reduce harm.

Other reports/webinars

- [The Frustrating Hydra of Municipal Social Fabric Weaknesses Revealed by the Pandemic](#): On 9 June 2021, 11:00 UTC, the WMA is hosting a webinar addressing the challenges of managing the pandemic at municipal level.
- [UCL-Lancet Lecture 2021: Lessons from the Pandemic for Science and Public Health](#): On 9 June 2021, from 9:30 to 11:00 (UK time) UCL Grand Challenges, the UCL Institute for Global Health, and The Lancet, are co-hosting an online lecture to present key learnings from the COVID-19 pandemic, with a keynote from Dr Soumya Swaminathan, WHO Chief Scientist.
- [COVID-19 Eastern Europe webinar: Vaccination emergency in Eastern Europe](#): On 9 June 2021, 14:00 to 15:30 (Brussels time), the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) is debating vaccination strategies and latest vaccination data in Eastern Partnership states and Russia, as well as in the EU, with a focus on availability and distribution.
- [WHO global conference on communicating science during health emergencies](#): Over the month of June, WHO is hosting a series of invitation-only events on science communication for researchers; science and the media; and translating science into action. The opening and closing panels on 7 and 25 June 2021 are public, registration is available [here](#).