Council of the European Union
General Secretariat

READING REFERENCES
Council Library

2020

COVID-19
reading references

Council of the European Union
Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175 - B-1048 Bruxelles/Brussel - Belgique/België
Tel. +32 (0)2 281 65 25
Follow us http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/library-blog/ - #EUCOlibrary

As the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic intensifies across the globe, rumours and disinformation are spreading with it.

The need for factual, authoritative information about the disease is of paramount importance.

It is essential that we all follow accurate public health advice from reputable sources such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and local health authorities. It is also worth consulting the COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak overview page on the Council's website Consilium, which provides a clear overview of the EU's response to the pandemic

Be careful with the sources you get your information from. If you plan to re-share information on COVID-19, take the time to check its reliability before doing so.

Keep healthy and stay informed!

Reading list compiled by the Council Libraries

Please note:

This bibliography is not exhaustive; it provides a selection of resources chosen by the Council Library. Some of the **titles** are **hyperlinked** to Eureka, the resource discovery service of the Council Library, where you can find additional materials on the subject. Access to some resource such as Ebooks might be limited to registered Council Library users or to users in subscribing institutions.

The contents are the sole responsibility of their authors. Resources linked from this bibliography do not necessarily represent the positions, policies, or opinions of the Council of the European Union or the European Council. Reuse of the covers is prohibited, they belong to the respective copyright holders.

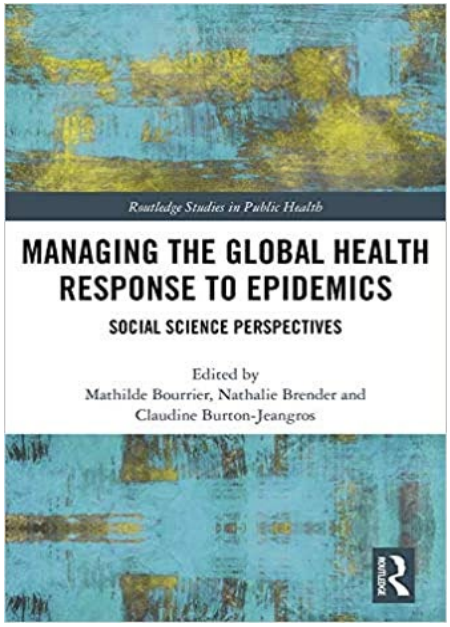
The Council Libraries cooperate with the Learning Centres of the European Commission, along with other Belgian and international libraries, and can borrow material from them.

If you are interested in any of these references, please submit your request to the Council Library. The books can be delivered to your office. Click on Request interlibrary loan via Eureka hyperlink and fill in the form, or contact Library@consilium.europa.eu

Additional resources may be added to this list by request - please contact the Council Library to suggest a title: library@consilium.europa.eu

TABLE OF CONTENTS

BOOKS



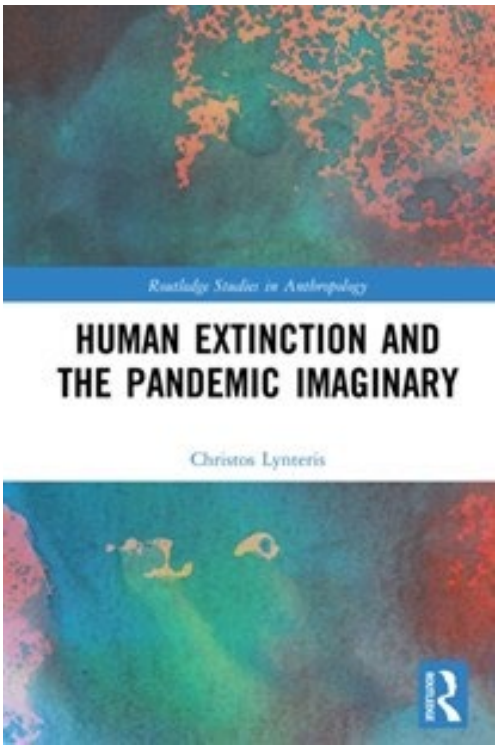
Managing the global health response to epidemics: social science perspectives

Mathilde Bourrier, Nathalie Brender, Claudine Burton-Jeangros

Routledge, 2019

Request via Ebook central

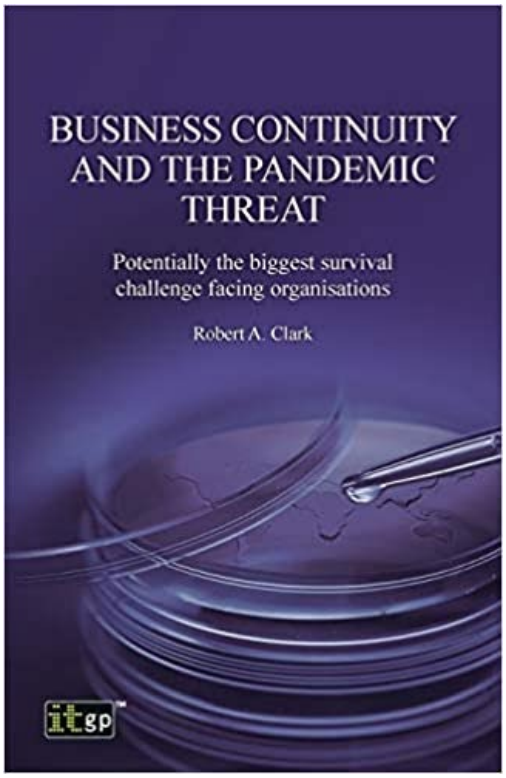
Recent epidemics have prompted large-scale international interventions, aimed at mitigating the spread of disease in a globalized world. During a crisis, however, global health actions - including planning and organizing, communicating about risk, and cost-benefit evaluations - aren't usually part of a single, integrated global response. Arguing that an uncoordinated approach can be challenged by local conditions and expectations, generating a wide range of resistance and difficulties, this volume provides important insights for future outbreak management and global health governance.



Human extinction and the pandemic imaginary

Christos Lynteris
Routledge, 2019
Request via Ebook central

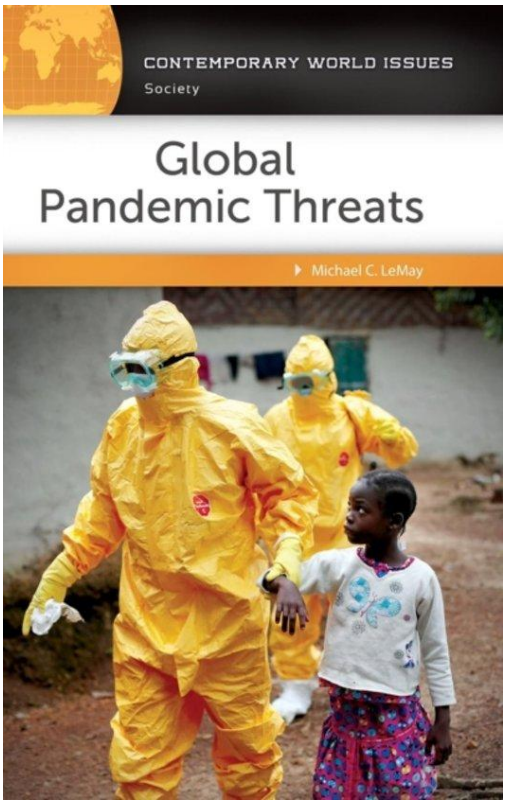
This book develops an examination and critique of human extinction as a result of the 'next pandemic' and turns attention towards the role of pandemic catastrophe in the renegotiation of what it means to be human. Nested in debates in anthropology, philosophy, social theory and global health, the book argues that fear of and fascination with the 'next pandemic' stem not so much from an anticipation of a biological extinction of the human species, as from an expectation of the loss of mastery over human/non-humanl relations. Christos Lynteris employs the notion of the 'pandemic imaginary' in order to understand the way in which pandemic-borne human extinction refashions our understanding of humanity and its place in the world. The book challenges us to think how cosmological, aesthetic, ontological and political aspects of pandemic catastrophe are intertwined.



Business continuity and the pandemic threat: potentially the biggest survival challenge facing organisations

Robert Clark
IT Governance Publishing, 2016
Request via Ebook central

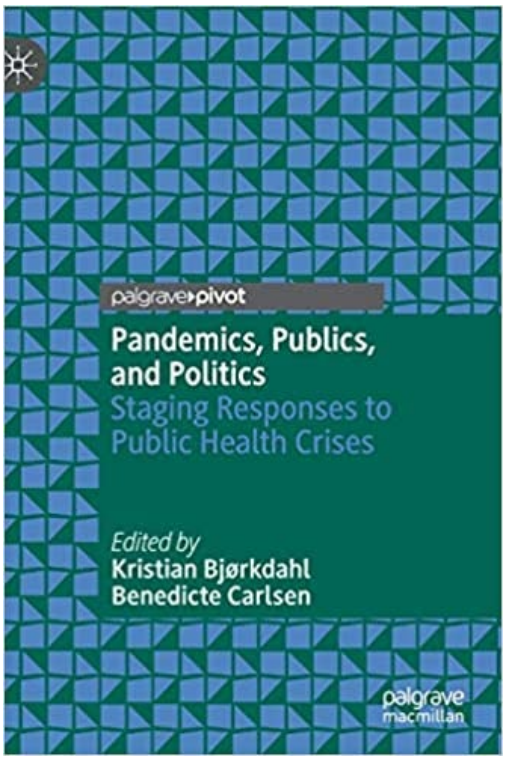
The increase in commercial aviation and international travel means that pandemics now spread faster than ever before. Seasonal flu pandemics, zoonotic contagions such as Ebola, swine flu and avian flu, and respiratory syndromes such as SARS and MERS have affected millions worldwide. Add the ever-present threat of terrorism and biological warfare, and the possibility of large proportions of your workforce being incapacitated is a lot stronger than you might think. How would your business fare if 50% or more of your employees, including those you rely on to execute your business continuity plan, were afflicted by illness - or worse? Although nothing can be done to prevent pandemics, their impact can be significantly mitigated.



Global pandemic threats: a reference handbook

Michael C. LeMay
ABC-CLIO, 2016
Request via Ebook central

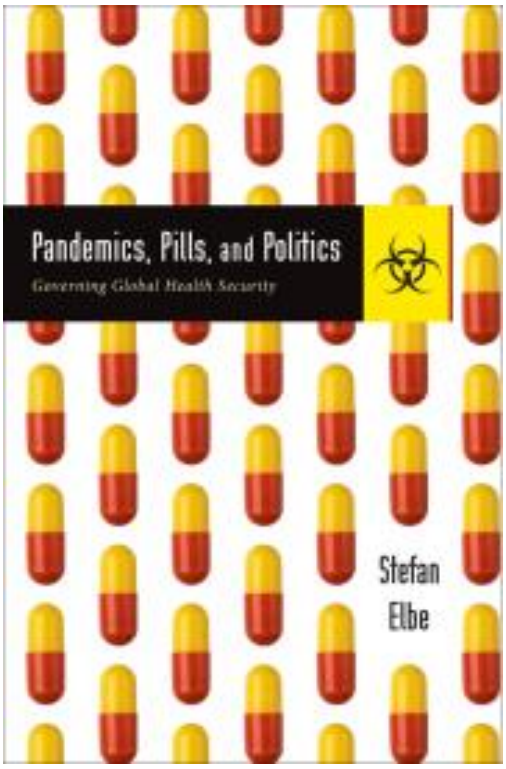
This handbook provides all-encompassing coverage that introduces key concepts and traces the history of pandemics, enabling readers to grasp the complexity of the global problem and the difficulties of executing effective solutions. Written in an easy-to-understand manner, it provides a "go-to" resource that systematically addresses dozens of diseases of the past as well as re-emergent or newly emerging pathogens that have the potential of becoming pandemics. work offers perspectives from individuals interested and involved in the fight, including medical professionals and health care workers; profiles of key organizations and persons; a helpful timeline of past and present pandemic outbreaks; and a glossary of key terms and concepts.



Pandemics, publics, and politics: staging responses to public health crises

Kristian Bjørkdahl, Benedicte Carlsen
Palgrave Pivot, 2019
Request via Ebook central

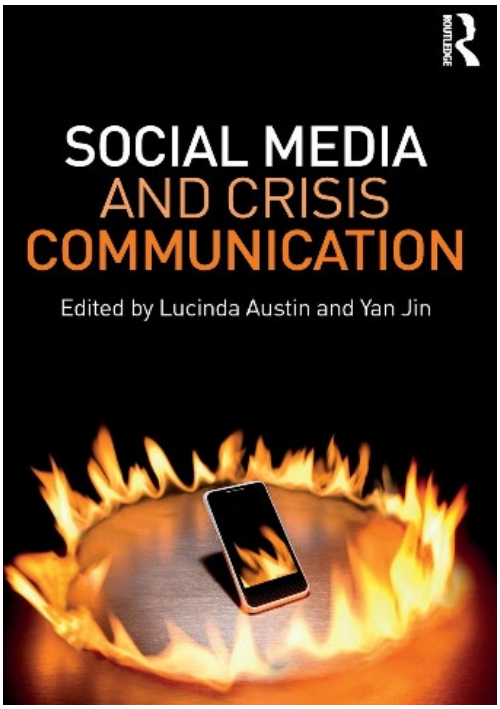
Pandemics are potentially very destructive phenomena, and for that reason, they both fascinate and frighten us. And because they are shot through with uncertainty, they often become sites of contestation and conflict. This book presents research on the 2009 pandemic and other public health crises in an attempt to describe and analyze the distinctive challenges that such diseases pose today. Today we face new challenges including fragmentation of media, tribalization of "knowledge regimes," the increasingly troubled status of scientific and political expertise, growing cross-continental mobility, as well as the globalization and commercialization of pandemic response systems. These distinctive complexities make the need to stage public action in response to pandemics and other public health crises a crucial problem, on which thousands of human lives hinge.



Pandemics, pills, and politics: governing global health security

Stefan Elbe
Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018
Online

A pill can strengthen national security? The suggestion may seem odd, but many states around the world believe precisely that. Confronted with pandemics, bioterrorism, and emerging infectious diseases, governments are transforming their security policies to include the proactive development, acquisition, stockpiling, and mass distribution of new pharmaceutical defenses. What happens—politically, economically, and socially—when governments try to protect their populations with pharmaceuticals? How do competing interests among states, pharmaceutical companies, regulators, and scientists play out in the quest to develop new medical countermeasures? And do citizens around the world ultimately stand to gain or lose from this pharmaceuticalization of security policy?



Social media and crisis communication

Lucinda L. Austin and Yan Jin
London: Routledge Ltd , 2017
Online

Provides a unique and timely contribution to the field of crisis communication by addressing how social media are influencing the practice of crisis communication. The book, with a collection of chapters contributed by leading communication researchers, covers the current and emerging interplay of social media and crisis communication, recent theories and frameworks, overviews of dominant research streams, applications in specific crisis areas, and future directions. Both the theoretical and the practical are discussed, providing a volume that appeals to both academic-minded readers as well as professionals at the managerial, decision-making level.

Émergence de maladies infectieuses Risques et enjeux de société

Serge Morand, Muriel Figuié, coord.
Éditions Quae, 2016
Online

Cet ouvrage ambitionne de montrer, d'une part, les mécanismes par lesquels le concept de maladies émergentes s'impose comme un nouveau mode de traitement des maladies infectieuses et, d'autre part, les nouvelles configurations que ce recadrage opère, tant dans le monde de la recherche que dans celui de la décision publique. Il propose pour ce faire de porter un regard pluridisciplinaire sur les maladies infectieuses émergentes, croisant à travers cinq chapitres des approches biologiques, politiques, sociologiques et historiques.

SELECTED ARTICLES

All articles are availble online (the titles include hyperlinks to full text). Resources not held by the Council Library can be request on interlibrary loan: Request via Eureka

Coronavirus disease 2019: What we know?

Feng He, Yu Deng, Weina Li
Journal of Medical Virology, 14 March 2020
Online Access

In late December 2019, a cluster of unexplained pneumonia cases has been reported in Wuhan, China. A few days later, the causative agent of this mysterious pneumonia was identified as a novel coronavirus. This causative virus has been temporarily named as severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 and the relevant infected disease has been named as coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) by the World Health Organization, respectively. The COVID-19 epidemic is spreading in China and all over the world now. The purpose of this review is primarily to review the pathogen, clinical features, diagnosis, and treatment of COVID-19, but also to comment briefly on the epidemiology and pathology based on the current evidence.

Pandémie de Covid-19 : esquisse d'un régime d'exception

Frédéric Bouhon, Andy Jousten et Xavier Miny
Dans Courrier hebdomadaire du CRISP 2020/1 (n° 2446)
Online Access

Depuis quelques semaines, l'actualité nationale et internationale est dominée par un seul sujet : la Belgique, comme une large partie du monde, est touchée par la pandémie de la maladie infectieuse appelée Covid-19 qui est due à la propagation d'un coronavirus. dentifié à Wuhan, en Chine, en décembre 2019, le virus s'est répandu dans le monde entier et poursuit son expansion, notamment en Europe, où l'Italie et l'Espagne sont particulièrement touchées. À l'heure d'écrire ces lignes, plus de 665 000 cas ont été diagnostiqués dans le monde et plus de 30 000 décès trouvent leur cause dans la maladie. Régulièrement, des projections alarmantes sont publiées et annoncent que la pandémie pourrait produire des effets encore plus catastrophiques. À la mi-mars 2020, le virus a été qualifié d'« ennemi de l'humanité » par le directeur de l'OMS.

Un nouveau coronavirus se propage: faisons-nous ce qu'il faut?

Danielle Vuicharda, Andreas Widmerb, Martin Krausea
Forum Médical Suisse – Swiss Medical Forum, 20(1112), 175-177, March 2020
Online access

Après la découverte du nouveau coronavirus à la fin 2019 chez de nombreux patients souffrant de pneumonie à Wuhan (province de Hubei, Chine), la propagation planétaire de ce virus tient le monde entier en haleine. Le nouveau coronavirus (CoV) est désormais appelé «SARS-CoV-2» et l'infection est nommée «COVID-19»; «COVID» signifie «corona virus disease» et 19 correspond à l'année de sa découverte. Avec environ 80% de tous les cas confirmés, la province de Hubei reste l'épicentre. Les vols et voyages en train depuis les principales villes de cette province sont annulés jusqu'à nouvel ordre, les routes sont fermées et le port du masque y est toujours obligatoire.

How to surge to face SARS-COV-2 outbreak: lessons learned from Lumbardy, Italy

Roberto Faccincani, Federico Pascucci and Sten Lennquist
Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness, 1-7, 01 April 2020
Online Access

Italy is fighting against one of the worst medical emergency since the 1918 Spanish Flu. Pressure on the hospitals is tremendous as for official data on March 14th: 8372 admitted in hospitals, 1518 in ICU, 1441 deaths (175 more than the day before). Unfortunately hospitals are not prepared: even where a plan for massive influx of patients is present, it usually focuses on sudden onset disaster trauma victims (the most probable case scenario), and it has not been tested, validated or propagated to the staff. Despite this, the All Hazards Approach (AHA) for management of major incidents and disasters is still valid and the "4S" theory for surge capacity can guide to respond to this disaster.

If not now, when?

Norman Poole
BJPsych Bulletin, 27 March 2020
Online Access

The author reflects on the implications of the pandemic on our European societies, analysing what is happening and what should happen in them. This is, for him, a phoney war against an invisible enemy.

Covid-19 et conflits : sept tendances à surveiller

International Crisis Group
The COVID-19 pandemic and deadly conflict, Briefing 4, 24 March 2020
Online Access

La pandémie de Covid-19, déjà mortelle et déstabilisatrice, menace de s'aggraver et pourrait avoir des répercussions politiques durables y compris quand la contagion sera maîtrisée. Crisis Group a identifié sept points de préoccupation majeure.

Monitoring Covid-19 contagion growth in Europe

Arianna Agosto, Alexandra Campmas, Paolo Giudici et al.
Centre for European Policy Studies, 30 March 2020
Online access

This study presents an econometric model which can be employed to monitor the evolution of the COVID-19 contagion curve. The model is a Poisson autoregression of the daily new observed cases, and can dynamically show the evolution of contagion in different time periods and locations, allowing for the comparative evaluation of policy approaches. Its presents results for nine European countries currently hit by the virus and draws four main conclusions regarding policy measures.

COVID-19, an emerging coronavirus infection: advances and prospects in designing and developing vaccines, immunotherapeutics, and therapeutics

Kuldeep Dhama et al.
Human Vaccines & Immunotherapeutics, 2020
Online Access

The novel coronavirus infection (COVID-19 or Coronavirus disease 2019) that emerged from Wuhan, Hubei province of China has spread to many countries worldwide. Efforts have been made to develop vaccines against human coronavirus (CoV) infections such as MERS and SARS in the past decades. However, to date, no licensed antiviral treatment or vaccine exists for MERS and SARS. Most of the efforts for developing CoV vaccines and drugs target the spike glycoprotein or S protein, the major inducer of neutralizing antibodies. Although a few candidates have shown efficacy in in vitro studies, not many have progressed to randomized animal or human trials, hence may have limited use to counter COVID-19 infection. This article highlights ongoing advances in designing vaccines and therapeutics to counter COVID-19 while also focusing on such experiences and advances

as made with earlier SARS- and MERS-CoVs, which together could enable efforts to halt this emerging virus infection

Kontaktpersonen finden, aber datenschutzfreundlich : Smartphones können helfen, Kontakte von Covid-19-Patienten zu identifizieren. Ein Problem ist der Datenschutz. Eine Initiative will das ändern: mit Apps und Bluetooth.

Eike Kühl
Spektrum.de-Newsletter abonnieren
Online access

Es sind Fragen, die sich in diesen Zeiten wohl viele schon gestellt haben: Hatte ich unwissentlich Kontakt zu einer an Covid-19 erkrankten Person, womöglich an der Supermarktkasse oder beim Joggen im Park? Und falls ja, wie finde ich das heraus? Das so genannte »contact tracing«, die Kontaktnachverfolgung, ist eines der wichtigsten Verfahren, um eine Pandemie einzudämmen und eines der schwierigsten: Denn wie soll man alle Menschen aufspüren, die in einem bestimmten Zeitraum Kontakt mit einer infizierten Person hatten? Vor allem dann, wenn es sich um fremde Menschen handelt, mit denen die Betroffenen vielleicht nur für wenige Minuten zusammen in einem Raum waren.

The European Green Deal after Corona: implications for EU climate policy

Milan Elkerbout, Christian Egenhofer, Jorge Núñez Ferrer et al
Centre for European Policy Studies, March 2020
Online access

Climate change policy cannot be the first priority of the EU for the immediate future. However, in spite of the corona-crisis the urgency of climate change mitigation has not disappeared. It will be important to ensure that recovery measures are compatible with global climate change and European Green Deal priorities so that stimulus money will flow to economic activities that have a place in a climate-neutral world. As time passes, the re-launch may actually offer a unique opportunity for the EU to live up to the Green Deal's promise of economic modernisation along the Paris decarbonisation objectives.

A balance act: minimizing economic loss while controlling novel coronavirus pneumonia

Binlei Gong, Shurui Zhang, Lingran Yuan &Kevin Z. Chen
Journal of Chinese Governance, 23 Mar 2020
Online Access

The outbreak of Novel Coronavirus Pneumonia (NCP) has significantly affected China and beyond. How to effectively control such epidemic has gradually become a global issue. This paper reviews the economic impact of major epidemics such as SARS, H1N1, and Ebola at the micro-, sector-, and macro-level. The challenge of effective epidemic control is to achieve a balance between viral transmission reduction and economic cost. This paper then summarizes three main methods to evaluate the effectiveness of several control policies. We also find that the adequacy and authenticity of information disclosure is of great importance to minimize economic loss, as either public panic due to overestimation or lack of public awareness due to underestimation can cause additional negative economic impacts. Accurate and transparent disclosure of information plays a crucial role associated

with fighting against the epidemic. Finally, the paper puts forward a number of policy recommendations to minimize economic loss while controlling the spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19: “a tale of two epidemics”

James J James
Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness, March 20, 2020
Online Access

The consequences of the COVID on the population are analyzed from a psychological and social point of view. For this purpose, the panic of the population and the incessant fear is considered as a pandemic, in order to study them according to its characteristics.

The pandemic of coronavirus: tackling the latest plague

John Ashton
Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine, V. 113 (2), March 2020
Online access

The world first became aware of the outbreak of coronavirus infection in China early in January, although it probably took root there much earlier. In Europe, where we have become accustomed to good cooperation and data sharing, it is frustrating that we can’t be certain of the timelines and the likely shape of what has become a true pandemic. In addition, we look on from a distance with incredulity at the brave postings on social media by those who are prepared to put themselves at risk by chronicling the daily evolution of this modern-day plague. We take comfort from our belief in the robustness of our medical and public health institutions and the health of our democracy with its commitment to free speech and openness. But are we deluding ourselves?

Crippled community governance and suppressed scientific/professional communities: a critical assessment of failed early warning for the COVID-19 outbreak in China

Edward Gu, Lantian Li
Journal of Chinese Governance, 24 March 2020
Online Access

The public governance of epidemic outbreaks faces great uncertainty. Successful governance is only possible with a competent early warning system, which hinges upon efficient production, sharing, and use of relevant knowledge and information. In this process, functional scientific/professional communities are critical gatekeepers. Analyzing China’s failed early warning for the COVID-19 outbreak, we show that an epidemic governance system dominated by bureaucratic forces is doomed to failure. In particular, we identify the lack of autonomy of scientific/professional communities—in this case, virologists, physicians, and epidemiologists—as one of the major contributing factors to the malfunction of the early warning system. Drawing upon the idea of community governance, we argue that only by empowering scientific/professional groups to exert efficient community governance can a state modernize its early warning system and perform better in combatting epidemics.

Chronicle of a pandemic foretold

Andrea Renda and Rosa J. Castro
Centre for European Policy Studies
Online access

In just a few weeks, COVID-19 appeared in China and quickly spread to the rest of the world, including Europe and the United States. Many have rushed to describe the outbreak as a 'black swan' – an unpredictable event with extremely severe consequences. However, COVID-19 was not only predictable ex post: it was amply predicted ex ante. This brief explores ways to pursue enhanced resilience and responsiveness, and examines their compatibility with sustainability and democratic values. (8 p.)

SARS to novel coronavirus – old lessons and new lessons

Brian McCloskey and David L. Heymann
Epidemiology and Infection, 148, 05 February 2020
Online Access

The response to the novel coronavirus outbreak in China suggests that many of the lessons from the 2003 SARS epidemic have been implemented and the response improved as a consequence. Nevertheless some questions remain and not all lessons have been successful. The national and international response demonstrates the complex link between public health, science and politics when an outbreak threatens to impact on global economies and reputations. The unprecedented measures implemented in China are a bold attempt to control the outbreak – we need to understand their effectiveness to balance costs and benefits for similar events in the future.

Physical interventions to interrupt or reduce the spread of respiratory viruses

Tom Jefferson et al.
Cochrane Systematic Review – Intervention
Online Access

Viral epidemics or pandemics of acute respiratory infections like influenza or severe acute respiratory syndrome pose a global threat. Antiviral drugs and vaccinations may be insufficient to prevent their spread. This review assesses the effectiveness of physical interventions to interrupt or reduce the spread of respiratory viruses

Potential global pandemics: the role of the WHO and other public health bodies

British Journal of Nursing, 29(5), 322-323, March 2020
Alan Glasper
Online Access

In light of the emergence of the new coronavirus in China, Emeritus Professor Alan Glasper, from the University of Southampton, discusses the response strategies adopted by international and national public health agencies.

Escaping Pandora's box — another novel coronavirus

New England Journal of Medicine, February 2020
David M Morens et al.
Online Access

The World Health Organization has declared the epidemic a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. If public health efforts cannot control viral spread, we will soon be witnessing the birth of a fatal global pandemic. The Greek myth of Pandora's box (actually a pithos, or jar) comes to mind: the gods had given Pandora a locked jar she was never to open. Driven by human weaknesses, she nevertheless opened it, releasing the world's misfortunes and plagues.

The European Council as COVID-19 crisis manager a comparison with previous crises

Suzana Elena Anghel ; Ralf Drachenberg ; European Parliament. European Council Oversight Unit.
2020
Online access

The COVID-19 outbreak confronts the European Union with a severe crisis, affecting both individual EU citizens' lives and society as a whole. Due to its role and centrality in the EU's institutional framework, the European Council is once again called upon to exercise its crisis-management role. Similarities can be drawn with past crises as regards both short and long-term responses. The main difference to previous crises, for instance, in the economy or on migration, which impacted a limited number of EU policies, is that the COVID-19 crisis touches the entire spectrum of policies at both European and national level, making a common response more challenging, as competences are divided between the different strata of the EU's multi-level governance system. Ultimately, this crisis has the potential to reshape EU policies, leading to increased cross-policy cooperation and possibly a centrally coordinated response mechanism.

World Health Organization declares global emergency : a review of the 2019 novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Sohrabi, Catrin ; Alsafi, Zaid ; O'Neill, Niamh ; Khan, Mehdi ; Kerwan, Ahmed ; Al-Jabir, Ahmed ; Iosifidis, Christos ; Agha, Riaz
Online access

An unprecedented outbreak of pneumonia of unknown aetiology in Wuhan City, Hubei province in China emerged in December 2019. A novel coronavirus was identified as the causative agent and was subsequently termed COVID-19 by the World Health Organization (WHO). Considered a relative of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) and Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS), COVID-19 is caused by a betacoronavirus named SARS-CoV-2 that affects the lower respiratory tract and manifests as pneumonia in humans. Despite rigorous global containment and quarantine efforts, the incidence of COVID-19 continues to rise, with 90,870 laboratory-confirmed cases and over 3,000 deaths worldwide. In response to this global outbreak, we summarise the current state of knowledge surrounding COVID-19.

COVID-19 : fighting panic with information

The Lancet
The Lancet, 22 February 2020, Vol.395(10224), pp.537-537
Online access

As governments and health officials worldwide grapple with the epidemic of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2, new developments in the accounting of and response to cases are occurring as part of a swiftly evolving crisis. On Feb 11, 2020, WHO announced an official name for the novel coronavirus disease: coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). After a stabilisation in the number of new cases, on Feb 13, 2020, China reported nearly 15000 new COVID-19 cases and 242 deaths in a single day in Hubei province.

COVID-19 : too little, too late?

The Lancet
The Lancet, 07 March 2020, Vol.395(10226), pp.755-755
Online access

By striking contrast, the WHO-China joint mission report calls China's vigorous public health measures toward this new coronavirus probably the most “ambitious, agile and aggressive disease containment effort in history”. Public health measures, such as surveillance, exhaustive contact tracing, social distancing, travel restrictions, educating the public on hand hygiene, ensuring flu vaccinations for the frail and immunocompromised, and postponing non-essential operations and services will all play their part in delaying the spread of infection and dispersing pressure on hospitals. The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control recommends that hospitals set up a core team including hospital management, an infection control team member, an infectious disease expert, and specialists representing the intensive care unit and accident and emergency departments.

COVID-19 : what is next for public health?

Heymann, David L ; Shindo, Nahoko; WHO Scientific and Technical Advisory Group for Infectious Hazards
The Lancet, 22 February 2020, Vol.395(10224), pp.542-545
Online access

The WHO Scientific and Technical Advisory Group for Infectious Hazards (STAG-IH), working with the WHO secretariat, reviewed available information about the outbreaks of 2019 novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on Feb 7, 2020, in Geneva, Switzerland, and concluded that the continuing strategy of containment for elimination should continue, and that the coming 2–3 weeks through to the end of February, 2020, will be crucial to monitor the situation of community transmission to update WHO public health recommendations if required.

COVID-19 : lessons from the Italian reproductive medical experience

La Marca, Antonio ; Niederberger, Craig ; Pellicer, Antonio ; Nelson, Scott M.
Fertility and sterility, March 25, 2020
Online access

By the time you're reading this, much will have transpired. That's the story with the exponential spread of an infection across the globe: it all happens so fast.On December 31, 2019, the Health Commission of Hubei Province, People's Republic of China, announced a cluster of unexplained cases of pneumonia. The virus was isolated, its genome was sequenced, and it was identified as the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). On February 11, 2020, the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses defined the virus as "acute severe respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2" (SARS-CoV-2) with the associated respiratory disease COVID-19 (CO-rona VI-rus D-isease 2019).

Balancing health privacy, health information exchange and research in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

Leslie Lenert, MD, MS, Brooke Yeager McSwain, MSc, RRT
Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association, 31 March 2020
Online access

The novel coronavirus COVID-19 infection poses serious challenges to the healthcare system that are being addressed through the creation of new unique and advanced systems of care with disjointed care processes (telehealth screening, drive-through specimen collection, remote testing, telehealth management, etc.) However, our current regulations on the flows of information for clinical care and research are antiquated and often conflict at the state and federal level. This paper discusses proposed changes to privacy regulations such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability act (HIPAA) designed to let health information seamlessly and frictionlessly flow between the health entities that need to collaborate on treatment of patients and, also, allow it to flow to researchers trying to understand how to limit its impacts.

Covid-19 : how coronavirus will change the face of general practice forever

Jacqui Thornton
BMJ 2020;368:m1279
Online access

At practice level, primary care has altered dramatically in the past few weeks, with staff—clinical and administrative—adapting to new ways of working. At some practices, entrance doors are locked shut and prescriptions given out from a window. Red tape, appraisals, and routine work has been relaxed, and home visits hugely reduced. At the end of phone and video consultations, many patients are saying "thank you and good luck."

Lockdown lockern – aber erst mal lokal? : Wie kommen wir aus dem Corona-Lockdown wieder raus? Vielleicht stufenweise. Zuerst könnten lokale Shutdowns den nationalen ablösen

Jakob Simmank
Zeit Online
Online access

Freunde treffen: verboten. Kneipen: zu. Konzerte und Veranstaltungen: abgesagt. In allen Bundesländern gilt seit Kurzem ein Kontaktverbot. Und kaum in Kraft, wünschen sich viele schon ein Ende. Wie lange noch müssen Menschen in Deutschland zu Hause bleiben?

A systematic review of COVID-19 epidemiology based on current evidence

Minah Park ; Alex R. Cook ; Jue Tao Lim ; Yinxiaohe Sun ; Borame L. Dickens
J. Clin. Med. 2020, 9(4), 967
Online access

As the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) continues to spread rapidly across the globe, we aimed to identify and summarize the existing evidence on epidemiological characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 and the effectiveness of control measures to inform policymakers and leaders in formulating management guidelines, and to provide directions for future research. We conducted a systematic review of the published literature and preprints on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak following predefined eligibility criteria. Of 317 research articles generated from our initial search on PubMed and preprint archives on 21 February 2020, 41 met our inclusion criteria and were included in the review. Current evidence suggests that it takes about 3-7 days for the epidemic to double in size. Of 21 estimates for the basic reproduction number ranging from 1.9 to 6.5, 13 were between 2.0 and 3.0. The incubation period was estimated to be 4-6 days, whereas the serial interval was estimated to be 4-8 days. Though the true case fatality risk is yet unknown, current model-based estimates ranged from 0.3% to 1.4% for outside China. There is an urgent need for rigorous research focusing on the mitigation efforts to minimize the impact on society.

Developing Covid-19 vaccines at pandemic speed

Nicole Lurie ; Melanie Saville ; Richard Hatchett ; Jane Halton
The New England Journal of Medicine, April 2, 2020
Online access

The need to rapidly develop a vaccine against SARS-CoV-2 comes at a time of explosion in basic scientific understanding, including in areas such as genomics and structural biology, that is supporting a new era in vaccine development. Over the past decade, the scientific community and the vaccine industry have been asked to respond urgently to epidemics of H1N1 influenza, Ebola, Zika, and now SARS-CoV-2. An H1N1 influenza vaccine was developed relatively rapidly, largely because influenza-vaccine technology was well developed and key regulators had previously decided that vaccines made using egg- and cell-based platforms could be licensed under the rules used for a strain change. Although a monovalent H1N1 vaccine was not available before the pandemic peaked in the Northern Hemisphere, it was available soon afterward as a stand-alone vaccine and was ultimately incorporated into commercially available seasonal influenza vaccines.

COVID-19 : face masks and human-to-human transmission

Xiaopeng Liu ; Sisen Zhang
Wiley Online Library
Online access

In December 2019, transmission of the novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) that causes coronavirus disease 2019(COVID-19) occurred in Wuhan, China1.And later the virus began to be transmitted from person to person2.Face masks are a type of personal protective equipment used to prevent the spread of respiratory infections, it may be effective at helping prevent transmission of respiratory viruses and bacteria3.Here, we share a case of face masks are be used to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 infection.

« L'éthique du traitement contre l'éthique de la recherche », le Pr Didier Raoult critique les « dérives » de la méthodologie

Didier Raoult
Le Quotidien du Medecin
Online access

Le Pr Didier Raoult, directeur de l'IHU Méditerranée-Infection à Marseille, est au coeur de la polémique autour de l'utilisation de de l'hydroxychloroquine dans l'infection Covid-19. Contacté plusieurs fois par « le Quotidien », l'infectiologue médiatique a répondu sous la forme d'une tribune. Pour le fer de lance de l'antipaludique, l'épidémie de coronavirus est l'occasion de remettre en place « une réflexion sur la morale du choix entre le soin et l'expérimentation ».

Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis of China's prevention and control strategy for the COVID-19 epidemic

Jia Wang and Zhifeng Wang
Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health 2020, 17(7), 2235
Online access

This study used the Strengths (S), Weaknesses (W), Opportunities (O) and Threats (T) (SWOT) analysis method, drawing on our experience of the response to the 2003 SARS epidemic, the 2019 China Health Statistics Yearbook data, and changes in China's policy environment for the pneumonia epidemic response relating to the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, to perform a systematic analysis of the COVID-19 epidemic prevention and control strategy S, W, O, and T, with a further analysis of a strategic foundation and to determine a significant and relative strategy. We assessed and formulated strength-opportunity (SO), weakness-opportunity (WO), strength-threat (ST), and weakness-threat (WT) strategies for the prevention and control of the COVID-19 epidemic. We conducted an in-depth analysis and identified the highest-priority policies. These are: reshaping the emergency system (SO1); adding health emergency departments to universities and other institutions (WO2); adjusting the economic structure and strengthening international and domestic linkages (ST2); and strengthening public intervention in responding to public health emergencies (WT1)

The challenge of communicating and controlling the coronavirus epidemic

José Moreno-Montoya
Biomédica 2020;40:11-3
Online access

A finales de enero de 2020, se detectó en territorio chino un nuevo coronavirus (COVID-19), responsable de un brote de neumonía en la localidad de Wuhan, después de haberse observado casos sintomáticos desde finales del año anterior (1). Desde entonces, los rasgos característicos del brote han sido analizados minuciosamente por la comunidad internacional con base en los informes de casos nuevos a medida que avanza la epidemia, incluida la duración del período de incubación. Su distribución geográfica hasta febrero de 2020 indicaba que, por lo menos, en 23 países había casos confirmados procedentes – en la mayoría de las ocasiones– directamente del país oriental. Entretanto, la provincia de Hubei cerró sus vuelos y sus rutas de transporte público masivo (2) y, dado que el virus se transmite de persona a persona, dicha medida ha logrado reducir el número reproductivo (R0), que equivale a la velocidad de transmisión de la enfermedad, el cual se estimó inicialmente en 2,2 (3). No obstante, persiste la incertidumbre de la real magnitud de dicha velocidad, y se presume que hay una diferencia significativa con respecto al valor crítico de uno, ya que los casos que actualmente se detectan y se confirman deben corresponder a personas que contrajeron la infección a mediados o a finales de enero, por lo que se requiere seguir investigando.

Ist der Mensch lernfähig? : Ausgerechnet ein Tier, das wir fast ausgerottet haben, könnte der Überbringer der Corona-Seuche sein. Das ist grausame Ironie - und ein Lehrstück über Ursache und Wirkung.

Judith Schalansky
Süddeutsche Zeitung
Online access

Vor vier Wochen stand ich lange vor einem Schaufenster in der Amsterdamer Nieuwe Spiegelstraat. Es gehörte einem Antiquitätenhaus, das sich auf den Handel mit Raritäten aus aller Welt, von Fernost bis Amerika, vor allem aber auf den mit präparierten Tieren spezialisiert hat. Zu sehen waren knochenbleiche Steinkorallen, ein Falke mit einer golden-purpurnen Haube, die mich an die Auslagen der Fetisch-Shops in der Berliner Motzstraße erinnerte, ein Litzaffenweibchen mit Sturmfrisur und Baby auf dem Rücken sowie ein viktorianischer gläserner Kasten mit 100 ausgestopften Kolibris, die, klein wie Schmetterlinge, in allen erdenklichen Farben schillernd, zu einem stummen Frühlingskonzert auf den Ästen versammelt saßen. Der Anblick war schwer auszuhalten, weil sich in die Schaulust das Gefühl der Verzweiflung darüber mischte, dass der Mensch fähig war, diese Schönheit selbst um den Preis des Todes zu bewahren.

Overcoming COVID-19 : what can human factors and ergonomics offer?

Ayse P Gurses et al.
Journal of Patient Safety and Risk Management, March 30, 2020
Online access

A novel coronavirus disease, named coronavirus disease 2019 or COVID-19, which sparked an outbreak in Wuhan, China in December 2019, is now a pandemic. The rapid spread of

this disease from one to more than 155 regions worldwide in 2.5 months highlights the need for better preparation to manage a pandemic. In this commentary, we describe how Human Factors and Ergonomics (HFE) can contribute to the COVID-19 pandemic response. Specifically, we provide an example of how HFE methodologies informed workflow redesigns implemented as part of COVID-19 pandemic preparations in an academic pediatric ambulatory clinic.

Telemedicine in the time of coronavirus

Brook Calton ; Nauzley Abedini ; Michael Fratkin
Journal of Pain and Symptom Management (2020)
Online access

Within weeks, COVID-19 has transformed our practice of palliative care and clinical medicine as we know it. Telemedicine has emerged as a critical technology to bring medical care to patients while attempting to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 among patients, families, and clinicians. It is also increasingly necessary to preserve scarce resources like personal protective equipment. In this article, we share just-in-time tips to support palliative care clinicians and program leaders in providing the best care possible by telemedicine. These quick, practical tips cover telemedicine set-up, patient considerations, and clinician considerations. Next steps include ensuring equitable access to affordable telemedicine technology for vulnerable populations through creative solutions and financing, and dedicated attention to telemedicine evaluation and quality improvement.

How sick will the coronavirus make you? : the answer may be in your genes

Jocelyn Kaiser
American Association for the Advancement of Science, Mar. 27, 2020
Online access

COVID-19, caused by the new pandemic coronavirus, is strangely—and tragically—selective. Only some infected people get sick, and although most of the critically ill are elderly or have complicating problems such as heart disease, some killed by the disease are previously healthy and even relatively young. Researchers are now gearing up to scour the patients' genomes for DNA variations that explain this mystery. The findings could be used to identify those most at risk of serious illness and those who might be protected, and they might also guide the search for new treatments.

Do you become immune once you have been infected?

New Scientist, Vol. 245 (3275), 28 March 2020, pp. 10-11
Online access

SAY you have caught covid-19 and recovered – are you now immune for life, or could you catch it again? We just don't know yet.In February, reports emerged of a woman in Japan who had been given the all-clear after having covid-19 but then tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus a second time. There have also been reports of a man in Japan testing positive after being given the all-clear, and anecdotal cases of second positives have emerged from China, too.

Kontaktpersonen finden, aber datenschutzfreundlich : Smartphones können helfen, Kontakte von Covid-19-Patienten zu identifizieren. Ein Problem ist der Datenschutz. Eine Initiative will das ändern: mit Apps und Bluetooth.
Eike Kühl
Spektrum.de-Newsletter abonnieren
Online access

Es sind Fragen, die sich in diesen Zeiten wohl viele schon gestellt haben: Hatte ich unwissentlich Kontakt zu einer an Covid-19 erkrankten Person, womöglich an der Supermarktkasse oder beim Joggen im Park? Und falls ja, wie finde ich das heraus? Das so genannte »contact tracing«, die Kontaktnachverfolgung, ist eines der wichtigsten Verfahren, um eine Pandemie einzudämmen und eines der schwierigsten: Denn wie soll man alle Menschen aufspüren, die in einem bestimmten Zeitraum Kontakt mit einer infizierten Person hatten? Vor allem dann, wenn es sich um fremde Menschen handelt, mit denen die Betroffenen vielleicht nur für wenige Minuten zusammen in einem Raum waren.

ARTICLE SUMMARIES

Detailed summaries are available via getAbstract for the following articles. If you have not yet registered to this database, you will be asked to create an account.

It's time to get serious about social distancing : here's how / Maria Godoy and Allison Aubrey

You're likely to get the coronavirus / James Hamblin

The coronavirus : how to stay safe / Laurie Garrett

Coronavirus will change the world permanently : here's how / Politico

Coronavirus and teleworking employees : set guidelines, priorities / Kathy Gurchiek

How companies can respond to the coronavirus / Michael Hudecheck et al.

Getting serious about the economic response to COVID-19 / Josh Bivens

Coronavirus outbreak deepens its toll on global business / The New York Times

The family lockdown guide / Celina Ribeiro

OTHER RESOURCES

Since the the COVID-19 outbreak institutions of various kinds have organized search tools and specialized repertoires on the subject. Remember that the library can help you in your searches in them.

Council of the European Union COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak overview

Dedicated section of the Council's website Consilium addressing the COVID-19 outbreak. Provides a clear overview of the EU's response to the pandemic and important information to help stop the spread of disinformation surrounding the virus.

World Health Organization. Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Pandemic

Working with 194 Member States, across six regions, and from more than 150 offices, WHO staff are united in a shared commitment to achieve better health for everyone, everywhere. This site provides situational updates, technical information, travel advisories, and information on protecting yourself from the virus.

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

ECDC is closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic, its rapid evolution and outbreak investigations. The ECDC provides risk assessments, public health guidance and advice on response activities to EU Member States and the EU Commission. This resource provides ECDC publications and reports, datasets, maps, infographics and other tools.

EUvsDisinfo project by the European External Action Service

Provides a snapshot overview of the current trends and insights into disinformation activities related to COVID-19.

American Psychological Association

The American Psychological Association presents a selection of resources on mental health in times of the IDOC. The papers, blog post and podcast focus on issues such as mourning, self-care, stigma, isolation, stress and child and dependent care, among others.

Dimensions COVID-19 publications.

Dimensions is a comprehensive database of scientific information, containing more than 100 million references of publications (articles, books, chapters, data sets, patents ...). This default search created for the COVID-19 provides updated information each time it is accessed through this link. Currently, it contains more than 4,000 open access resources.

Disaster Lit®

Database for Disaster Medicine and Public Health is the National Library of Medicine (NLM) US database of links to disaster medicine and public health free documents. Includes expert guidelines, research reports, conference proceedings, training classes, fact sheets, websites, databases, and more.

Pubmed
PubMed comprises more than 30 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and online books. Citations may include links to full-text content from PubMed Central and publisher web sites.
Ask your librarian to help you do complex searches of this database.

Clinical trials
Web site of the National Library of Medicine (NLM) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that contains clinical trials (also called interventional studies).

LitCovid
LitCovid is a curated literature hub for tracking up-to-date scientific information about the 2019 novel Coronavirus. It is a comprehensive resource on the subject, providing a central access to relevant articles that are updated daily and further categorized by different research topics and geographic locations for improved access.

1science coronavirus research repository
Elsevier's 1findr platform facilitates the retrieval of open access resources from refereed journals. The Coronavirus Research Repository allows the rapid location of thousands of full-text research papers on COVID-19, SARS, MERS and other coronaviruses with a simple and intuitive search and retrieval system.

COVID-19 por especialidades
The Spanish Health Science libraries maintain this collection of resources selected and organised by medical specialities (primary care, occupational health, epidemiology, public health...). The selected documents are mainly scientific papers in open access and several languages. All the pdfs can be downloaded directly from the website.

Sistema Bibliotecario Biomedico Lombardo - SBBL
The Italian SBBL compiles documentation produced by the main institutions, scientific societies and publishers on COVID-19. It includes information from governments and other institutions, scientific publications, data banks, tools and maps.

JSTOR: teaching pandemics syllabus
Readings on the history of quarantine, contagious disease, viruses, infections, and epidemics offer important context for the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

COVID-19 Open research dataset (CORD-19)
In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Allen Institute for AI has partnered with leading research groups to prepare and distribute the COVID-19 Open Research Dataset (CORD-19), a free resource of over 45,000 scholarly articles, including over 33,000 with full text, about COVID-19 and the coronavirus family of viruses for use by the global research community.
You can download the full data or browse the full text corpus of publications through the CORD-19 Explorer.

Interactive Coronavirus Map

This interactive map by Johns Hopkins allows users to explore and view part of the world affected by the coronavirus outbreak.

DynaMed COVID-19

DynaMed processes information published in different types of scientific studies, producing easy to use sheets on key aspects of the COVID-19, such as diagnosis, management, history, etiology and others.

JoVE Coronavirus Free Access Resource Center

This scientific platform provides short videos explaining corona specific protocols, general virus protocols, lab preparation, current status and research, current diagnosis methods, treatment and prevention.

TED TALKS

Coronavirus is our future

Alanna Shaikh
TED, 2020
Online access

Global health expert Alanna Shaikh talks about the current status of the 2019 coronavirus outbreak and what this can teach us about the epidemics yet to come. Alanna Shaikh is a global health consultant and executive coach who specializes in individual, organizational and systemic resilience.

How we must respond to the coronavirus pandemic

Bill Gates
TED, 2020
Online access

Philanthropist and Microsoft cofounder Bill Gates offers insights into the COVID-19 pandemic, discussing why testing and self-isolation are essential, which medical advancements show promise and what it will take for the world to endure this crisis.

What we do (and don't) know about coronavirus

David Heymann
TED, 2020
Online access

The novel coronavirus is spreading quickly in many areas of the globe. Thus, scientific understanding of the virus is evolving fast. Find out what researchers know thus far, how long the world must wait for a vaccine, and what pressing epidemiological questions remain in this scientific but accessible talk from epidemiologist and SARS expert David Heymann.
