# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report

Data as reported by national authorities by 23:00 local time 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2020

## Situation Report No. 197 - Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 13<sup>th</sup> of December, 2020



	Glo	bal	Eastern Mediterranean Region		
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	
Total	69,808,588	1,588,854	4,465,756	111,063	
New	2,028,227 in 3 days	37,640 in 3 days	87,546 in 3 days	1,834 in 3 days	

#### Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
Total	359,749	350,347	6,036	3,366	517	10,349,590
New	475 in 3 days	723 in 3 days	34 in 3 days	-	-	116,000 in 3 days

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Regions with the highest new infections over the past 3 days: Riyadh (152), Makkah (107), Eastern (66), Madinah (64), Asir (26), Qassim (18) and Tabuk (14).
- The Council of Cooperative Health Insurance: Healthcare providers directed to provide treatment in emergency/resuscitation cases directly without the need to refer to the insurance company.
- Britain adds Saudi Arabia to its safe travel corridor list, meaning that those arriving from the Kingdom will no longer have to self-isolate.
- Saudi FDA approved Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine as the first COVID19 vaccine in the country, which is expected to be received in the coming few days.
- WHO provides updated guidance on COVID-19 therapeutics, see link.
- WHO produces guide on developing a national deployment and vaccination Planning for COVID-19 vaccines, see link.
- WHO updated guidance on mask use in the context of COVID-19, see link.
- WHO produces a draft landscape of current COVID-19 candidate vaccines.

### **IMPORTANT LINKS**

- MoH COVID-19 updates: https://twitter.com/saudimoh
- WHO's COVID-19 global situation reports:

https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports

- WHO's COVID-19 dashboard: https://covid19.who.int/
- $\textbf{- MoH COVID-19 dashboard:} \ https://covid19.my.gov.sa/ar/Pages/default.aspx$
- $\hbox{-} \textbf{WHO's COVID-19 The rapeutics:} https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/the rapeutics-and-covid-19-living-guideline$
- WHO guide on developing a national deployment and vaccination Plan:

 $https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Vaccine\_deployment-2020.1$ 

- WHO updated guidance on mask use in the context of COVID-19:

https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/advice-on-the-use-of-masks-in-the-community-during-home-care-and-in-healthcare-settings-in-the-context-of-the-novel-coronavirus-(2019-ncov)-outbreak

- Draft landscape of COVID-19 candidate vaccines:

https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/draft-landscape-of-covid-19-candidate-vaccines



#### What is the COVID-19 Infodemic?

An infodemic is an overabundance of information, both online and offline. It includes deliberate attempts to disseminate wrong information to undermine the public health response and advance alternative agendas of groups or individuals. Mis- and disinformation can be harmful to people's physical and mental health; increase stigmatization; threaten precious health gains; and lead to poor observance of public health measures, thus reducing their effectiveness and endangering countries' ability to stop the pandemic.

Misinformation costs lives. Without the appropriate trust and correct information, diagnostic tests go unused, immunization campaigns (or campaigns to promote effective vaccines) will not meet their targets, and the virus will continue to thrive. Furthermore, disinformation is polarizing public debate on topics related to COVID-19.

#### **IMPORTANT CONTACTS**

- The National Focal Person for COVID-19 is Dr Abdullah Asiri, Assistant Deputy for Preventive Health, MoH, email: AbdullahM.Asiri@moh.gov.sa





