

COVID-19 Lockdown Exit Analysis

6th Oct 2020

News Highlights

Trump urges Americans to not fear the virus as he leaves hospital after treatment

Days after testing positive for Covid-19, U.S. President Donald Trump prepared to leave Walter Reed Hospital, where he has been treated with a range of drugs including remdesivir. In a video statement, [Trump urged Americans to get back to work with adequate precautions but not fear the virus](#). Trump has frequently downplayed the severity of the pandemic, despite the disease having killed more than a million people worldwide.

Paris bars to shut to fight rising coronavirus cases

Health authorities in Paris are planning to issue a slew of new coronavirus restrictions, including shutting down bars for the next two weeks, to fight a growing number of Covid-19 cases in the city. [Cinemas, theatres, museums and restaurants will remain open with restrictions, with a limit of six people to groups and a minimum one metre distance between each table](#). The Roland Garros tennis tournament, in progress since last week, will maintain a limit of 1,000 spectators per day.

Three-tier lockdown proposed in England to fight rising cases

A three-tier lockdown system may be implemented in the UK shortly to fight the steep increase in coronavirus cases. [Tier 1 contains the minimum level of restrictions including childcare bubbles and limits on attendances for weddings and funerals](#). Tier 2 will include all Tier 1 measures along with curbs on meeting people outside one's household. Tier 3 involves the harshest set of restrictions including a complete ban on contact outside one's household and a closure of hospitality and leisure businesses.

Nepal overtakes China in number of coronavirus cases

New coronavirus cases are rising steeply in the tiny Himalayan nation of Nepal and the country now has 86,823 cases of Covid-19, overtaking China's tally, [close to a year after the pandemic first began in Wuhan](#). With festival season around the corner, social distancing norms and health protocols are being flouted despite more than 2,200 cases being reported in Nepal alone and authorities are estimating that the toll could end up being much higher.

Lockdown Exit

New Zealand 'Beat The Virus Again' Prime Minister Declares, As Nation Lifts Second Wave Restrictions

New Zealand, the first country hit by Covid-19 to declare it was free of the virus before going into lockdown again, is set to declare that it has overcome a second wave of the illness, cementing its position as one of the countries with the most successful response to the virus. Most of the country, with a population of 4.8 million, is at an alert level of 1, the lowest level that indicates the virus is contained, while capital Auckland will move down from level 2 to level 1 by Wednesday. The changes mean that the 100-person cap on gatherings will be lifted, and social distancing will be done away with in bars and restaurants

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/isabeltogoh/2020/10/05/new-zealand-beat-the-virus-again-prime-minister-declares-as-nation-lifts-second-wave-restrictions/>

Additional sources: ([Independent.ie](#)) ([The Guardian](#)) ([Reuters](#))

Mumbai restaurants, bars to open today after months of lockdown

Restaurants, bars and cafes to reopen in Mumbai from Monday after over six months of lockdown restrictions because of coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic. The dine-in facility will be reopened at 50% capacity and will adhere to several restrictions by following guidelines of the Maharashtra government that were issued last week. However, because of an acute crunch in staff several restaurant owners have asked their workers to return to Mumbai at the earliest and many are booking their flights in a bid to ensure employees could resume their duties at the earliest

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/mumbai-news/mumbai-restaurants-bars-to-open-today-after-months-of-lockdown/story-plbnPVN41CuSzglVojhzXL.html>

'Enormous' planning to distribute coronavirus vaccine in UK

An "enormous amount of planning" is currently going into distributing a coronavirus vaccine, Downing Street has said. A spokesman said that a huge amount of planning and preparation is in place to make sure an eventual vaccine could be sent across the country. "The priority will be the most vulnerable groups and we take advice from the independent Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) on which groups should get the vaccine, based on these factors and we keep it under review," the prime minister's official spokesman said.

<https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/18771493.enormous-planning-distribute-coronavirus-vaccine-uk/>

Coronavirus vaccine will be given to less than half the UK population, taskforce chief says

The head of the UK's vaccine taskforce has warned that less than half of the British population should expect to receive a coronavirus vaccine. Kate Bingham said it is "misguided" to expect that every UK citizen will get a Covid-19 vaccine injection when it is widely released, as they will initially be reserved for at-risk groups only. The priority groups top of the list for the vaccine will include the over-50s and health and social care workers.

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/health/coronavirus-vaccine-less-half-uk-a4563396.html>

Coronavirus: The entire nation is going to Level 3 - here's what that means

Taoiseach Michael Martin has announced that the whole country is to go under Level 3 restrictions as cases of Covid-19 continue to increase. Despite a recommendation from the National Public Health Emergency Team (NPHE) to move the country into Level 5, the Government rejected the advice today and instead opted to bring the rest of the counties in line with Donegal and Dublin. Martin said it is "important to understand that we are in a very different situation to last March". "The virus is spreading because people are allowing it to spread," he said.

<https://www.thejournal.ie/coronavirus-level-3-restrictions-5224529-Oct2020/>

Exit Strategies

'Major questions unanswered' about effectiveness of NHS Covid-19 App

There are "major questions unanswered" about the effectiveness of the NHS Covid-19 App, a charity has said. The app was officially launched in England and Wales on 24 September, after months of setbacks and multiple trials. But the Health Foundation has raised concerns about the lack of published evidence from the app's pilots, which it says could put public trust at risk.

<https://www.digitalhealth.net/2020/10/major-questions-unanswered-about-effectiveness-of-nhs-covid-19-app/>

Rich countries are total vaccine hogs. Covid-19 must change that

When swine flu hit, poor countries missed out on vaccines. Public health experts are trying to stop that happening again with Covid-19. This time around, there's another way to buy vaccines: the

Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility, set up by the WHO and vaccine organisations including Gavi, the vaccine alliance started by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, as well as the WHO and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness (CEPI). Wealthier countries can donate directly to COVAX to fund vaccines for less well off nations — and the UK has chucked in £500m — but they can also opt to buy vaccines themselves, giving COVAX the capital to make necessary deals.

<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/coronavirus-vaccine-distribution>

Covid-19 has changed working patterns for good, UK survey finds

Most office workers do not intend to spend five days a week in the workplace once the Covid-19 crisis is over, with both bosses and employees seeing home working as a long-term trend. The pandemic has changed working patterns for good, a survey from the British Council for Offices (BCO) has found. In future white-collar workers will adopt a mixed approach, combining remote working with several days a week in the office. The Institute of Directors agrees that more firms are taking a mixed approach to where their employees work.

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2020/oct/05/covid-19-has-changed-working-patterns-for-good-uk-survey-finds>

French minister: colleagues who didn't download Covid app being 'very French'

France's technology minister has blamed the poor take-up of the country's Covid-19 contact alert app on "timing and culture" and says colleagues in government who failed to download it were being "very French". Cédric O, the minister for digital transition, said that using the app, StopCovid, was essential if the French wanted to avoid further restrictions. Paris and several other cities have been put on red "maximum alert" after a rise in the spread of the virus in recent days.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/05/french-minister-colleagues-who-didnt-download-covid-app-being-very-french>

India sees 100,000 COVID-19 deaths: What happened and what now?

India has crossed the grim milestone of 100,000 coronavirus deaths, the third-highest in the world behind only the United States and Brazil. Despite the South Asian nation's attempts to control the spread of the COVID-19 disease, which included one of the world's strictest lockdowns, infections have surged at an alarming pace. To date, India has more than 6.6 million cases, second only to the US. On Monday, it registered a single-day spike of 74,442 new cases, while 903 virus deaths in the past 24 hours took the total fatalities up to 102,685. However, the country's recovery rate stands at 84 percent, the highest in the world, with more than 5.5 million people recovered from coronavirus so far, according to the health ministry. Al Jazeera spoke to four leading health experts on India's handling of the crisis so far and what can be done in future to mitigate the spread of the respiratory disease.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/10/5/india-at-100000-deaths-what-experts-say>

Japan might reopen its borders to all travellers early next year

Countries all over the world have come out of lockdown and reopened their borders over the summer. Now Japan has started to welcome back at least some international travellers too. The Japanese government announced last month that it will lower the travel warning level for around ten countries around the world from '3' (meaning 'avoid travelling for any reason') to '2' ('avoid non-essential travel'). A two-week quarantine will still be required for anyone flying into Japan, but it is hoped the move will encourage these nations to allow Japanese travellers in too – paving the way, eventually, for mutual leisure travel arrangements.

<https://www.timeout.com/news/japan-might-reopen-its-borders-to-all-travellers-early-next-year-100520>

Coronavirus state border restrictions are easing but these Australians still have no idea when they'll see their loved ones

Across Australia, coronavirus measures are being wound back. Queensland on Friday announced it would reopen its border to New South Wales by next month, so long as there are 28 days of no

community transmission, and last week relaxed measures to allow entry to people from the ACT. Tasmania is due to reopen its borders to most states and territories at the end of the month. But there are still plenty of border restrictions in place across the country. Western Australia has been clear it is in no rush to end its hard border, and that's just one example.

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-10-04/coronavirus-australia-state-borders-families-friends-separated/12715026>

Australia's Victoria state to boost testing on path to easing restrictions

Australia's coronavirus hotspot of Victoria will look into ways to increase testing for the disease to control its spread in anticipation of easing of the state's stringent lockdown restrictions, officials said on Monday. New daily coronavirus infections in Victoria, Australia's second most-populous state, fell to nine cases on Monday, down from 12 in the previous days. No deaths were reported.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-australia/australias-victoria-state-to-boost-testing-on-path-to-easing-restrictions-idUKKBN26Q08V?il=0>

World Bank proposes a \$12 billion fund for COVID vaccine dispersal to poor and developing countries

The World Bank is seeking approval from its board for a \$12 billion fund that would help poor and developing countries get access to a COVID-19 vaccine in the future. "Marketplace Morning Report" host David Brancaccio spoke with World Bank President David Malpass about how the fund would work and how the global financial institution is uniquely positioned to help facilitate a future international distribution plan for the COVID-19 vaccine. The following is an edited transcript of their conversation.

<https://www.marketplace.org/2020/10/05/world-bank-12-billion-fund-covid-vaccine-dispersal-poor-and-developing-countries/>

NHS calls in Armed Forces to help distribute coronavirus vaccine

The British armed forces will be involved in distributing a coronavirus vaccine across the UK 'according to priority', the Health Secretary has said. Speaking at the Conservative Party conference on Sunday, Matt Hancock confirmed that a 'combination of the NHS and the armed forces' are already working on 'making the rollout happen'. He said the doses would be distributed based on a prioritisation list, noting that it was important to 'get the vaccine to the people who are most likely to be badly affected by coronavirus first'. Calling the vaccine a 'great hope', he told the conference: 'The Prime Minister said this morning there will be some bumpy months ahead but we are working as hard as we can to get a vaccine as fast as is safely possible.'

https://metro.co.uk/2020/10/05/armed-forces-working-with-nhs-to-distribute-vaccine-according-to-priority-13371682/?ico=more_text_links

Partisan Exits

'Don't be afraid' of virus, Trump says as he prepares to leave hospital

President Donald Trump said he will leave a military hospital where he is being treated for COVID-19 later on Monday, and urged people not to be afraid of the disease, which has killed more than a million people worldwide and wreaked economic havoc. Even if discharged, he will need to continue treatment as he is still undergoing a five-day course of an intravenous antiviral drug, remdesivir. The normal quarantine period for anyone testing positive for the novel coronavirus is 14 days. Trump has frequently downplayed the threat of the pandemic which has infected 7.4 million Americans. In recent days, he released a series of videos to reassure the public he is recovering from the disease caused by the virus.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-trump/trumps-covid-19-status-unclear-could-return-to-white-house-monday-idUKKBN26Q0D8>

Why a second lockdown could turn the lights out on the UK economy

James Reed is chairman and chief executive of recruitment firm REED. He writes about a second wave of Covid-19: "While I agree that extra measures might be needed to combat the spread of this disease, a blanket second full lockdown will certainly drive a coach and horses through the early signs of economic recovery" "A lockdown is a short-term fix based upon the hope that a vaccine for Covid-19 is just around the corner, which it may or may not be. It's something that should only be considered as an absolute last resort, after all other options have been exhausted."

<https://www.cityam.com/second-lockdown-could-shut-down-uk-economy/>

Neo-Nazis and anti-vaxxers join protest against coronavirus restrictions in Germany

Far-right activists, Neo-Nazis and anti-vaccine conspiracy theorists were among the thousands who joined a protest against coronavirus restrictions in Germany over the weekend. The demonstration at Lake Constance in the south of the country, close to the Austrian border, also attracted thousands of counter-protesters, although police said there had not been any violence. Organisers of the rally, who opposed social distancing measures imposed to try and restrict the spread of Covid-19, had hoped to gather as many as 200,000 demonstrators to form a human chain around the lake. But the police said they had counted only about 11,000 people among the two protests.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/coronavirus-covid-19-protest-germany-lake-constance-b805022.html>

Ireland faces resistance to 'nuclear' COVID-19 lockdown recommendation

Ireland's government faced political and business resistance on Monday to a surprise recommendation by health chiefs for Europe's first major second wave national lockdown to prevent hospitals from being overwhelmed as coronavirus cases rise. The National Public Health Emergency Team called for a leap to the highest level of COVID-19 restrictions, Level 5, late on Sunday, just three days after telling government the current Level 2 status for most of the country was appropriate.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-ireland/ireland-faces-resistance-to-nuclear-covid-19-lockdown-recommendation-idUKKBN26Q184?il=0>

UK's Sunak warns of economic and social impact of lockdowns

British finance minister Rishi Sunak warned that a further lockdown would cripple both the economy and society, stating that lockdowns have a very strong economic and social impact. Sunak spoke about his dissatisfaction with the 10 pm curfew on pubs and restaurants saying that, "Of course it's frustrating. I know it's difficult and wish we didn't have to do these things." He added that ministers were divided on the issue but encouraged Brits to abide by the rules. He said that he would not remain silent in his fight against future lockdowns and implored his fellow ministers to strive for normality in the face of COVID-19

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-britain-sunak/uks-sunak-warns-of-economic-and-social-impact-of-lockdowns-the-sun-idUKKBN26Q00P>

White House Blocks New Coronavirus Vaccine Guidelines

Top White House officials are blocking strict new federal guidelines for the emergency release of a coronavirus vaccine, objecting to a provision that would almost certainly guarantee that no vaccine could be authorized before the election on Nov. 3, according to people familiar with the approval process. Facing a White House blockade, the Food and Drug Administration is seeking other avenues to ensure that vaccines meet the guidelines. That includes sharing the standards with an outside advisory committee of experts — perhaps as soon as this week — that is supposed to meet publicly before any vaccine is authorized for emergency use. The hope is that the committee will enforce the guidelines, regardless of the White House's reaction.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/05/us/politics/coronavirus-vaccine-guidelines.html>

Continued Lockdown

The Uneven Decline of Health Services Across States During Lockdown

In India, the national lockdown in April-May 2020 had devastating effects on people's employment and earnings. About half of urban workers, for instance, did not earn any income during that period according to a recent survey by the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics. For good measure, many public services were also reduced or discontinued. This includes routine health services. Clear evidence of the massive disruption of health services during the lockdown is available from the Indian government's Health Management Information System (HMIS).

<https://thewire.in/health/covid-19-lockdown-health-services-decline>

Mana, last village on India-China border, to continue with its own lockdown

In India, even though the entire country is in Unlock mode, the 500-odd residents of Mana – the last Indian village before China border adjoining Uttarakhand – have unanimously decided to continue with their self-imposed lockdown and isolation. Not a single case of Covid-19 has been reported in the village with over 150 families, and the locals do not want to spot their track record. It was a unanimous decision by all the families.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/mana-last-village-on-china-border-to-continue-with-its-own-lockdown/articleshow/78467588.cms>

'Heavy-handed' cops slammed after new COVID-19 fines data emerges

Victorians have been hit with far more COVID-19 fines than any other state in Australia, an economist's numbers show. Data released by economist Saul Eslake on coronavirus breaches during the state's first lockdown showed a huge imbalance between Victoria and the rest of Australia. COVID-19 fines in Victoria averaged out to \$90 per 100,000 people. For all other states and territories it was about \$20 – and just \$16 for New South Wales. Community lawyer Lloyd Murphy claimed police had been "heavy handed", with young people disproportionately affected. "And now here's even more data to suggest people from migrant backgrounds and people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander backgrounds are being targeted even further."

<https://www.9news.com.au/national/coronavirus-fines-victoria-police-accused-of-being-heavy-handed-on-covid-19-penalties-new-data/0e6ff108-3837-4651-b879-d12da1688936>

Scientific Viewpoint

CDC says airborne transmission plays a role in coronavirus spread in a long-awaited update after a website error last month

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention acknowledged Monday that people can sometimes become infected with the novel coronavirus through airborne transmission, especially in enclosed spaces with inadequate ventilation. The long-awaited update to the agency Web page explaining how the virus spreads represents an official acknowledgment of growing evidence that under certain conditions, people farther than six feet apart can become infected by tiny droplets and particles that float in the air for minutes and hours, and that they play a role in the pandemic.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/10/05/cdc-coronavirus-airborne-transmission/>

Pfizer, BioNTech, and Regeneron Hit With Patent Lawsuits Over COVID-19 Drugs and Vaccines

The three companies are accused of using a fluorescent protein in their research without paying royalties for it.

<https://www.fool.com/investing/2020/10/05/regeneron-hit-with-patent-lawsuit-over-antibody-co/>

CEPI establishes global network to compare COVID-19 vaccines

The Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness (CEPI) has established a global network to reliably assess and compare COVID-19 vaccine candidates. The centralised lab network has initially selected five

laboratories across the globe,

http://www.pmlive.com/pharma_news/cepi_establishes_global_network_to_compare_covid-19_vaccines_1352491

Trump's recovery from Covid-19 depends on unproven drugs

Of all the drugs being given to President Trump, dexamethasone is by far the most ominous: it is usually reserved for people who are seriously ill. A cheap, widely used steroid, it is the only drug proven to save the lives of Covid-19 patients. It is thought to work by calming the immune system, which goes into overdrive in some people and turns on their own vital organs. Mr Trump was also given a dose of a promising — but unproven — treatment known as a monoclonal antibody. Developed by Regeneron, it contains laboratory-grown versions of the antibodies that a robust immune system will generate naturally to fight off the coronavirus.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/president-trumps-recovery-depends-on-unproven-drugs-c325rsm6c>

Coronavirus: Researchers suggest common cold could offer COVID-19 protection

Researchers are looking at whether the common cold could offer some protection against contracting coronavirus. A recent study at Yale University found that rhinovirus - the most frequent cause of a cold - could jump-start the body's antiviral defences, providing protection against the flu. They discovered that the presence of rhinovirus triggered production of the antiviral agent interferon, which is part of the early immune system response to the invasion of pathogens. The researchers are now looking at whether introduction of the cold virus before infection by COVID-19 offers a similar type of protection.

<https://news.sky.com/story/coronavirus-researchers-suggest-common-cold-could-offer-covid-19-protection-12090540>

Covid-19 updates: One in 10 worldwide may have had virus, WHO says

One in 10 people around the world may have contracted Covid-19, the World Health Organization said, at a special meeting of WHO leaders. A top official said the estimate meant "the vast majority of the world remains at risk". Just over 35m people have been confirmed as being infected with coronavirus - the WHO's estimate puts the true figure at closer to 800m. The estimate that 10% of the world's population has contracted the virus came from Mike Ryan, the executive director of the WHO's Health Emergencies Programme. "This varies depending on country, it varies from urban to rural, it varies between different groups," he said.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-54422023>

Cobra Biologics steps up work to develop Covid-19 vaccine with new manufacturing agreement

A North Staffordshire biologics business has entered a collaboration which will see it manufacture a Covid-19 vaccine for an Oxford-based medical firm. Keele-based Cobra Biologics has signed a good manufacturing practice (GMP) agreement with Scancell for the production of a new vaccine which has the potential to provide long-lasting immunity against Covid-19 - by generating protection not only against this strain, but also against new strains of coronavirus that may arise in the future. The project - which is being funded by an Innovate UK grant - represents a crucial development in the production of a Covid-19 vaccine for use in the Phase 1 clinical trial, COVITY.

<https://www.business-live.co.uk/manufacturing/cobra-biologics-steps-up-work-19038116>

People who contract both flu and Covid-19 are more likely to die, research suggests

Public Health England research suggests that people infected with both flu and COVID-19 between January and April were more at risk of severe illness and death. This year, 30 million people will be offered the free flu vaccine. Three of the nation's senior medics - Dr Yvonne Doyle, Professor Jonathan Van-Tam, and Dr Nikita Kanani - are calling on all eligible people to get vaccinated against flu, as the new research suggests that the risk of death more than doubled for people who tested positive for both flu and COVID-19, compared to those with COVID-19 alone.

<https://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/18769946.people-flu-covid-19-likely-die-research-suggests/>

This survivor may have had Covid-19 twice

Covid-19 first struck Jordan Josey around St. Patrick's Day, right as social distancing guidelines were rolling out across the U.S. The 29-year-old was sick through Easter, before eventually clearing the coronavirus, developing antibodies and gradually building up his stamina again by early May. He donated convalescent plasma on May 18 and received a letter two weeks later confirming that he was positive for coronavirus antibodies. A swab test around that time came back negative for the virus itself. But then inexplicably he came down with Covid-19 symptoms again just before the Fourth of July. He and his internist aren't sure whether the virus was never fully defeated or whether he may have gotten reinfected

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/05/health/reinfection-covid-19-survivor-wellness/index.html>

India's new paper Covid-19 test could be a 'game changer'

A team of scientists in India has developed an inexpensive paper-based test for coronavirus that could give fast results similar to a pregnancy test. The test, named after a famous Indian fictional detective, is based on a gene-editing technology called Crispr. Scientists estimate that the kit - called Feluda - would return results in under an hour and cost 500 rupees (about \$6.75; £5.25). Feluda will be made by a leading Indian conglomerate, Tata, and could be the world's first paper-based Covid-19 test available in the market.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-india-54338864>

Did early focus on hand washing and not masks aid spread of Covid-19?

From the moment coronavirus reached UK shores, public health advice stressed the importance of washing hands and deep-cleaning surfaces to reduce the risk of becoming infected. The advice was informed by mountains of research into the transmission of other respiratory viruses: it was the best scientists could do with such a new pathogen. But as the pandemic spread and data rolled in, some scientists began to question whether the focus on hand hygiene was as crucial as it seemed. Contaminated surfaces, such as doorknobs and light switches - "fomites", to use the scientific terminology - may not be such a big deal, they claimed.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/05/did-early-focus-on-hand-washing-and-not-masks-aid-spread-of-covid-19-coronavirus>

In full: GP letter warns Hancock against new Covid lockdown

In England, a group of GPs has written to Matt Hancock, warning him against a new lockdown: "As a group of expert medical generalists, we urgently wish you to consider non-Covid harms and deaths with equal standing as the reported deaths from Covid. Restrictions and lockdown have recognised value in pandemic control and we fully supported the first lockdown when little was known about the virus. The position now is transformationally different: after the short, initial lockdown phase, the harms to long term health and wellbeing begin to outweigh the benefits. Now is a critical pivotal point: we must recognise our duty to do no harm. We are concerned due to mounting data and real-world experience, that the one-track response threatens more lives and livelihoods than Covid-lives saved."

<https://www.pulsetoday.co.uk/resource/coronavirus/in-full-gp-letter-warns-hancock-against-new-covid-lockdown/>

Point of view of the Italians pediatric scientific societies about the pediatric care during the COVID-19 lockdown: what has changed and future prospects for restarting

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is currently rare in children and they seem to have a milder disease course and better prognosis than adults. However, SARS-Cov-2 pandemic has indirectly caused problems in pediatric medical assistance. In view of this we wanted to draw a picture of what happened during health emergency and analyze future prospects for restarting. We involved the Italian pediatric scientific societies institutionally collected in the Italian Federation of Associations and Scientific Societies of the Pediatric Area (FIARPED); We sent a questionnaire to all

scientific societies about the pediatric care activity during the COVID-19 emergency and future perspectives for the phase of post-containment.

<https://www.docwirenews.com/abstracts/point-of-view-of-the-italians-pediatric-scientific-societies-about-the-pediatric-care-during-the-covid-19-lockdown-what-has-changed-and-future-prospects-for-restarting/>

NPIs reduced SARS-CoV-2 transmission in South Korea

In South Korea, the first cases of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection were identified in January 2020. By April 2020, the number of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) cases went up to 10,683 infections, and 237 people had died of the disease. A large percentage of the cases and deaths were a result of superspreader events in the Daegu-Gyeongsangbuk province. Although some studies examined how public health interventions can help contain COVID-19 outbreaks, not much information was available on public health measures against SARS-CoV-2 transmission, specifically in South Korea. Researchers from the Konyang University College of Medicine, South Korea, and The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, analyzed the transmission of COVID-19 outside of the Daegu-Gyeongsangbuk provincial region in South Korea, in a recent study published in the CDC's Emerging Infectious Diseases journal.

<https://www.news-medical.net/news/20201004/NPIs-reduced-SARS-CoV-2-transmission-in-South-Korea.aspx>

4,000 people from Bradford volunteer for 'world's first' COVID vaccine trials

An incredible 4,000 people from Bradford have volunteered to take part in the world's first Covid-19 vaccine trials, starting in the city tomorrow. Bradford Institute for Health Research, at Bradford Royal Infirmary, is one of 20 UK centres testing the efficacy of the Novavax drug on human subjects. Researchers have selected around 500 people from the 4,000 Bradford volunteers to be vaccinated. The expert leading the groundbreaking research, Consultant Respiratory Physician Professor Dinesh Saralaya, said it has been a "very good response" from people in Bradford, but more volunteers are needed from BAME groups. "This is where we are lacking," he explained.

<https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/4000-people-bradford-volunteer-worlds-19051553>

The race inside Russia's coronavirus vaccine laboratory

Russia powered through with developing a coronavirus vaccine to give people hope and not because of political pressure, the nation's top virologist told CNN in a rare interview. All other work at the Gamaleya Institute was suspended and scientists and researchers were tasked with developing an effective vaccine, said the institute's director, Alexander Gintsburg. Promising results led to the vaccine being approved even before widespread human testing, Gintsburg insisted. That's testing that experts say is required before any vaccine is widely used. "It gave people a choice to either protect themselves or play roulette with a pathogen -- will you get infected or not, will you die or not?" he said. Critics across the globe say the breakneck speed of the vaccine development points to political pressure from the Kremlin, which is keen to portray Russia as a global scientific force. It was President Vladimir Putin himself who announced the approval of the vaccine amid much fanfare on Russian state television.

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/05/europe/russia-sputnik-v-coronavirus-vaccine-gamaleya-institute/index.html>

Study of 'excess deaths' finds there may be another 75,000 unconfirmed COVID-19 fatalities

Researchers looked at the number of 'excess' deaths between February and September compared to years prior. An analysis of more than 1,000 counties revealed at least 183,000 deaths with COVID-19 assigned as the direct cause of death. What's more, for every 100 deaths directly attributed to the virus, there were an additional 36 deaths. This means the death toll of 209,000 could actually be undercounted by up to 36% and around 284,000

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-8807073/Study-excess-deaths-finds-75-000-unconfirmed-COVID-19-fatalities.html>

Cargo airlines face challenges shipping coronavirus vaccine: report

Even if a coronavirus vaccine is approved soon, it will likely be years until it can be distributed around the world, according to cargo airline and logistics executives. Challenging storage and shipping requirements, combined with reduced cargo availability and higher demand, are likely to delay distribution, according to a new Wall Street Journal report. Although cargo airlines are trying to prepare, a host of unknowns — including where the vaccine will be made, how many doses are needed, and how it will need to be stored — means there's only so much that can be organized in advance.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/coronavirus-vaccine-distribution-cargo-airlines-challenges-2020-10>

Pfizer and BioNTech Have Enrolled 83% of Their Up-Sized Coronavirus Vaccine Trial

Pfizer has now enrolled 36,576 participants in the late-stage clinical trial of its coronavirus vaccine candidate, BNT162b2, which it's developing with BioNTech. Last month, the companies increased their planned enrollment in the study from 30,000 to approximately 44,000, meaning that it is currently 83% enrolled. Pfizer and BioNTech have signed up more participants than Moderna, which had 28,043 people in the clinical trial of its vaccine candidate, mRNA-1273, as of Friday evening. Moderna's phase 3 trial still has a target of 30,000 participants, so it'll likely reach full enrollment first. But the amount of time it will take the companies to reach complete enrollment shouldn't much affect when they release their initial efficacy data, because those preliminary results will come from analyses of data generated by the participants inoculated earliest in the studies.

<https://www.fool.com/investing/2020/10/05/pfizer-and-biontech-have-enrolled-83-of-their-up-s/>

Coronavirus Resurgence

Coronavirus: Pandemic 'will be bumpy through to Christmas and maybe beyond', Boris Johnson warns

The coronavirus pandemic "will be bumpy through to Christmas" and potentially beyond that, Boris Johnson has warned, as he said it is "too early to say" whether local lockdowns are working. The prime minister acknowledged there will be some members of the public who are "furious at me" and "furious at the government" amid the continuing COVID-19 restrictions. "I've got to tell you in all candour it's going to continue to be bumpy through to Christmas, it may even be bumpy beyond," he said in an interview with the BBC's Andrew Marr Show.

<https://news.sky.com/story/coronavirus-boris-johnson-admits-it-is-too-early-to-say-if-local-lockdowns-are-working-12089547>

Kremlin Says Not Aware of Any Plans to Impose New Lockdown as Cases Climb

The Kremlin said on Monday that it was not aware of any current government plans to impose a strict lockdown in Russia to curb the sharp rise in coronavirus cases. Russia's daily tally of new coronavirus cases rose to its highest since May 12 on Monday as authorities reported 10,888 new infections nationwide, including 3,537 in Moscow.

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-10-05/kremlin-says-not-aware-of-any-plans-to-impose-new-lockdown-as-cases-climb>

Welsh Government 'actively considering' quarantine rule for people travelling from UK lockdown areas

The Welsh Government is "actively considering" imposing quarantine restrictions on people travelling into Wales from areas of the UK with high levels of coronavirus. First Minister Mark Drakeford had previously called on Prime Minister Boris Johnson to introduce travel restrictions for people in areas of England under local lockdown. People living in parts of Wales subject to local restrictions must not enter or leave that area without a reasonable excuse - which does not include travelling for a holiday. Health minister Vaughan Gething told a press conference: "We're actively considering what we should do and I've discussed it this morning with the First Minister. "We have

quarantine regulations for international travel.

<https://www.itv.com/news/wales/2020-10-05/welsh-government-actively-considering-quarantine-rule-for-people-traveling-from-uk-lockdown-areas>

Covid: Welsh quarantine considered for UK coronavirus hotspots

People travelling to Wales from Covid hotspots elsewhere in the UK could face quarantine under measures being considered by the Welsh Government. Health Minister Vaughan Gething said he was looking at how powers could be used to protect areas with lower cases. It comes after the prime minister rejected calls from Welsh ministers for a travel ban. Currently people in lockdown areas in England can go on holiday in parts of Wales not subject to restrictions. It is illegal for people to leave or enter lockdown counties Wales except for a limited set of reasons, like work or education. But a similar law does not exist for areas under local restrictions in England. UK Health Secretary Matt Hancock said the Westminster government felt it was more "appropriate" to put "travel restrictions in guidance rather than in law"

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-politics-54420708>

Covid in Scotland: Sturgeon to meet advisers over further restrictions

Further restrictions could be introduced "in the near future" to stop the spread of Covid-19 in Scotland, Nicola Sturgeon has said. The first minister is to meet advisers and ministers on Monday and Tuesday to discuss fresh measures. She said it was "vital that we do everything we can" to slow the virus and that "not acting costs lives". Some advisers have backed the idea of a "circuit breaker" lockdown as "short, sharp shock" to the spread of Covid-19. National Clinical Director Jason Leitch told BBC Scotland that two weeks of heightened restrictions could push the course of the pandemic back by 28 days and "buy time" ahead of winter.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-54415973>

Countries across Europe set grim COVID-19 records as restrictions are reimposed

As Europe transitions from summer into autumn, countries that claimed to have the coronavirus under control are once again seeing a surge in infections. The United Kingdom, which has the biggest death toll on the continent, reported 23,000 new cases on Sunday. Officials said the figure included more than 15,000 infections which had not been counted due to a computer glitch.

<https://www.9news.com.au/world/coronavirus-world-updates-europe-italy-france-numbers-spain-madrid-lockdown-uk-warning/1607811b-2ba7-40a3-9972-410855451435>

How would a 'circuit breaker' lockdown work for Scotland?

Leaked plans of what a potential 'circuit breaker', or 'fire breaker' lockdown, could look like were first made public on 21 September as Scotland faced high numbers of new cases. Shortly afterwards, the Scottish Government imposed strict bans on the number of households people were allowed to mix between and imposed a 10pm curfew on hospitality.

<https://www.scotsman.com/health/coronavirus/how-would-circuit-breaker-lockdown-work-scotland-2992967>

Coronavirus: Jason Leitch says 'circuit breaker' lockdown could 'buy Scotland time'

Professor Jason Leitch told BBC Scotland that a two-week-long lockdown would deliver a "short, sharp shock to the R number." He said such a move was about "buying yourself more time", but added that officials were still weighing up whether the economic cost of a "circuit breaker" was a price "worth paying".

<https://www.scotsman.com/health/coronavirus/coronavirus-jason-leitch-says-circuit-breaker-lockdown-could-buy-scotland-time-2992590>

Nepal overtakes China's Covid-19 tally, mulls lockdown

The coronavirus barometer of the Himalayan nation has surged high in recent days with the number of cases reaching 86,823 on October 4. Nepal on Sunday overtook China in the number of infections

which has reported 85

<https://www.deccanherald.com/video/news/nepal-overtakes-chinas-covid-19-tally-mulls-lockdown-897381.html>

Bali's exploding coronavirus death rate could make island last place Aussies return to

The coronavirus death rate is exploding in Bali, sparking fears it'll be among the last places to welcome Aussie visitors again. Business is suffering so severely even major chains are permanently closing, including McDonald's in the centre of usual-hotspot Kuta.

<https://www.9news.com.au/national/coronavirus-indonesia-bali-death-rate-cases-business-impacts-australians-travel-health-concerns-covid19/83a09e9d-7e9c-43ed-b691-770abf8c4f29>

Italian government set to impose new curbs to tackle COVID-19 resurgence

The Italian government will likely impose new restrictions on the country in the coming week to try to beat back rising numbers of coronavirus cases, Health Minister Roberto Speranza said on Sunday. The cabinet is due to meet on Tuesday to decide how to respond to an increase in infections, with southern Italian regions for the first time looking vulnerable to the disease. "The battle isn't over. We don't have the numbers seen in other European countries ... but we are in a phase of significant growth and I hope the country finds a spirit of unity," Speranza told state broadcaster RAI. The measures under review include making the wearing of masks obligatory outdoors across the whole country and re-introducing curbs on social gatherings.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-italy/italian-govt-set-to-impose-new-curbs-to-tackle-covid-19-resurgence-idU5L8N2GV0HP>

No coronavirus lockdown for top Tory constituencies

Wealthy areas, including the chancellor Rishi Sunak's parliamentary seat, are avoiding lockdown despite having higher Covid-19 rates than poorer areas that are subject to restrictions, according to leaked emails between health officials. The government is under growing pressure to explain why it has placed large parts of the north and Midlands under local lockdowns while overlooking areas with similar infection rates. Asked why the northwest is "treated differently" from areas such as his own seat of Uxbridge and South Ruislip in west London, Boris Johnson said on Friday: "I appreciate ... people want to see an iron consistency applied across the whole country."

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/no-coronavirus-lockdown-for-top-tory-constituencies-rqtkhxm8s>

Overtaking China in number of COVID-19 cases, carefree Nepalese now worry about possible lockdown

The coronavirus barometer of the Himalayan Nation has surged high in recent days with the number of cases reaching 86,823 on October 4. Nepal on Sunday overtook China in the number of infections which has reported 85,450 cases amid speculation that the toll could be higher. Nepal on Sunday alone logged 2,253 new cases with 1,329 cases of recoveries and seven deaths. Out of new cases, Kathmandu Valley alone contributed 1,373 new cases while Lalitpur registered 187 and Bhaktapur 39 new cases of coronavirus. Despite the increasing number of cases, the buzz in the market and roads in Kathmandu is as normal as before. Social distancing, sanitisation and other basic health protocols issued by the government are flaunted by shoppers who are all in a festive mood to celebrate the upcoming festival of Dashain

<https://in.news.yahoo.com/overtaking-china-number-covid-19-175412437.html>

New Lockdown

NYC mayor seeks to lockdown coronavirus hotspots

New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio said on Sunday he is moving to shut non-essential businesses as well as schools in nine neighborhoods identified as coronavirus clusters, starting on Wednesday. This report produced by Yahaira Jacquez.

<https://uk.reuters.com/video/watch/nyc-mayor-seeks-to-lockdown-coronavirus-idOVCYPX87Z>

What are the three proposed tiers of local lockdown for England?

A leaked document has revealed plans for three tiers of local lockdown measures in England to curb the spread of coronavirus and reduce confusion caused by a patchwork of regional restrictions. The document, dated 30 September and seen by the Guardian, describes the levels as follows:

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2020/oct/04/what-are-the-three-tiers-local-coronavirus-lockdown-england>

Madrid's fearful residents head for the hills | News

Madrid residents fearful of another strict lockdown are moving in droves to the Sierra de Guadarrama, the mountain range 30 miles north of the Spanish capital. Estate agents say that demand to buy or rent a home in the area is 40 per cent higher than before the three-month lockdown in March and that almost all customers are Madrileños. Prices are rising in the mountains in contrast with the city, where they are falling.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/madrids-fearful-residents-head-for-the-hills-zzcv0vzx3>

Confusion but no chaos, as Madrid sees new coronavirus restrictions implemented in 10 cities

There was widespread confusion and doubts among the public in Madrid this weekend as new restrictions came into force on Friday night in 10 cities in a bid to slow the spread of coronavirus in the region, which was described last week by the Health Minister Salvador Illa as being at the “community transmission” stage.

<https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-10-05/confusion-but-no-chaos-as-madrid-sees-new-coronavirus-restrictions-implemented-in-10-cities.html>

Business as usual? Scant enforcement of Madrid's new lockdown

Madrid residents were largely coming and going as normal on Monday despite a prohibition on non-essential travel in the first European capital to return to a coronavirus lockdown due to resurgent infections, which rose above 800,000 nationally. Police said 300 officers were manning 60 checkpoints, but commuters poured into the Spanish capital as usual and few said they had noticed extra controls. With 850 COVID-19 infections per 100,000 people, the Madrid area has Europe’s highest rate, so 4.8 million people in the city and nine satellite towns came under new restrictions from Friday night.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-spain/business-as-usual-scant-enforcement-of-madrids-new-lockdown-idUSKBN26Q1PY>

Coronavirus: Paris to shut bars and raise alert to maximum

Paris will shut all bars completely from Tuesday after the French government raised the city's coronavirus alert to maximum following a period of high infection rates. Bars, gyms and swimming pools will all be closed for two weeks in a bid to curb the spread of the virus, the city's police chief said. But restaurants will remain open if strict hygiene rules are in place. On Sunday France reported 12,565 cases of Covid-19. "These are braking measures because the epidemic is moving too fast," police chief Didier Lallement said during a press conference on Monday.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-54413563>

Paris bars to close as Covid infections rise among young people

Bars in the Paris region have been ordered to close from Tuesday after health authorities reported a sharp rise in the number of Covid-19 infections among the 20-30 age group. Restaurants in and around the French capital have been given a reprieve and told they can stay open on condition that they enforce new, stricter health safety regulations. This will involve taking the name and telephone number of diners, allowing a maximum of six people per group and providing hand gel on each table. The city’s police chief said this applied only to establishments “whose main activity is serving food”.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/oct/05/paris-bars-to-close-for-two-weeks-as-city-moves-to-maximum-covid->

[alert](#)

Aussies defy COVID limits and crowd Victoria's beaches, parks

The premier of Australia's Victoria state has called on citizens to "stay the course" after large groups flooded beaches and parks at the weekend in defiance of lockdown regulations. Victoria, emerging from a major winter spike in coronavirus cases, relaxed lockdown regulations last weekend but still allowed only five people from up to two households to congregate outside.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/10/4/australia-lockdown>

Coronavirus digest: Paris closes bars to curb rising infections

Paris authorities announced new anti-coronavirus measures, as the French capital is expected to go on maximum virus alert. Starting Tuesday, bars will be closed in Paris and its suburbs. Restaurants will remain open under strict conditions, including a minimum one-meter (three-foot) distance between each table, a limit of six people to groups reservation and a request to register contact information for tracing purposes. Cinemas, theaters and museums will remain open under strict sanitary rules and authorities have opted to maintain the limit of 1,000 spectators per day at big sports events, allowing the Roland Garros tennis tournament to this week, as planned. But indoor sport facilities, including swimming pools, will only be open to children aged under 18. Student parties and all other festive and family events in establishments open to the public are also banned.

<https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-digest-czech-republic-back-under-state-of-emergency/a-55156799>

Moscow authorities consider return to tough COVID- 19 lockdown - Vedomosti

Moscow authorities are considering imposing a strict lockdown to curb the spread of the new coronavirus and are looking at several possible scenarios, the Vedomosti newspaper reported on Monday, citing sources. * "It's particularly important to understand how to take steps that don't finish off businesses," one Vedomosti source said. * Russia reported 10,499 new coronavirus cases on Sunday, the highest number of daily infections since May 15, when the outbreak was at its peak and lockdowns were in place.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/media-moscow-authorities-consider-return-idUSL8N2GW0TG>

New three-tier lockdown planned for England: The Guardian

A new three-tier lockdown is being planned for England, The Guardian reported, citing leaked government documents which revealed tougher measures that could be implemented locally or nationally if the government fails to get COVID-19 cases under control. The new lockdown would potentially entail harsher restrictions including the closure of pubs and a ban on all social contact outside household groups, the newspaper said. According to the documents seen by The Guardian, the draft plan called the 'COVID-19 Proposed Social Distancing Framework' is designed to simplify the existing localized restrictions.

<https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-england-lockdown/new-three-tier-lockdown-planned-for-england-the-guardian-idUKKBN26P10L?il=0>

Israel's Lockdown Feels Pretty Different the Second Time Around

When Israel imposed a coronavirus lockdown in March, I walked home after raiding the supermarket and was able to hear the birds chirping on Dizengoff Street, one of the busiest arteries here. The next day I spoke to my father in Jerusalem, where the country's first death from coronavirus had just been recorded. We both danced around the fact that, since his age made him more susceptible to complications from the virus, it would probably be a long time before we could see each other. Movement was restricted to within 100 meters (about 330 feet) from one's home. I taped to our fridge a "schedule" for my children, who were 3½ and 1½, which included assembling puzzles in the living room, coloring on our tiny porch and tent-building in their room. Five days later, I scrapped the "schedule" because every unfilled task felt like a personal failure. When my husband got off work (our dining table became his home office), I would lock myself on the porch with the shutters down

to write.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/10/04/opinion/israel-coronavirus-lockdown.html>