"The need to study and plan carefully the intervention design and empowerment of the community is truly essential in handling infodemic successfully... Thank you, WHO for this learning!" - OpenWHO user, Infodemic Management 101

Open WHO News

The latest from WHO's open learning platform

HIGHLIGHTS

OpenWHO marks 2 years of pandemic learning response with 1 million enrolments in introductory COVID-19 course *(p.1)*

Course production strategy evolves with pandemic need *(p.2)*

Early months of COVID-19 pandemic brought more learners to MERS courses *(p.2)*

Data spotlight on pandemic learning response timeline and country use patterns *(p.3)*

Marking 2 years of pandemic learning response

This month marks 2 years since we launched our first course introducing learners across the globe to the then novel coronavirus. That course, which has been updated 13 times to reflect the latest evidence, is now available in 45 national and local languages and has surpassed 1 million enrolments.

Overall, OpenWHO hosts 40 COVID-19 courses and 91 courses on other key health topics, with more than 6.2 million total course enrolments. At the centre of this work, OpenWHO continuously seeks to advance equity in the pandemic learning response.

"Everyone deserves access to knowledge to protect their health and the health of their loved ones," said Dr Michael Ryan, Executive Director of the WHO Health Emergencies Programme. "Providing open-access online learning is an integral part of capacitating countries and communities to prepare for and respond effectively to health emergencies like the COVID-19 pandemic."

LATEST COURSES

Monkeypox epidemiology, preparedness and response

Inequality monitoring in immunization

Rapid diagnostics for tuberculosis detection

Daily course enrolments in the MERS-related courses on OpenWHO from January 2020 - October 2021
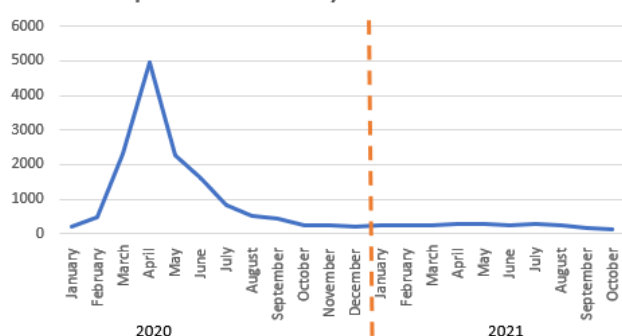
Learning response evolves with pandemic need

To address the shifting learning needs during the pandemic, OpenWHO has focused on key thematic areas to shape our production strategy:

In 2020, our core focus was on providing information for mass audiences and health workers so they could protect themselves and others, including basic information about COVID-19 and infection prevention and control.

In 2021, we prioritized learning support for the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines, providing essential information for health workers and national planning.

This year, we will work to expand support to countries by providing localized learning based on WHO guidelines and developing additional channels for country-originated learning content.

TOP COURSES ON OpenWHO DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

1st year of response (2020)		2nd year of response (2021)	
1	Introduction to COVID-19	1	COVID-19 vaccination training for health workers
2	Infection prevention and control for COVID-19	2	COVID-19 personal protective equipment
3	COVID-19 country preparedness and response	3	Introduction to COVID-19
4	COVID-19 personal protective equipment	4	Hand hygiene
5	eProtect respiratory	5	Infection prevention and control for COVID-19

Early months of COVID-19 pandemic brought more learners to MERS courses

OpenWHO enrolment numbers show that the COVID-19 pandemic has stimulated learners' interest, not only in COVID-19, but also in related respiratory diseases. For example, the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic saw a resurgence in enrolments in the courses on Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV), at a time when much was still unknown about the then novel coronavirus, now known as COVID-19.

The 2 MERS courses available on the platform – Introduction to MERS and MERS: methods for detection, prevention, response and control – have garnered more than 20 000 total enrolments across the three available languages (English, French and Arabic). Saudi Arabia, which has had the highest number of MERS cases and deaths reported worldwide since the disease was first identified in 2012, is the country with the second-highest number of enrolments in both courses, accounting for 8.2% of total course enrolments.

Coronaviruses have, particularly in recent years, demonstrated the threat they pose to human health: from the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) coronavirus epidemic of 2002-2003, the identification of MERS-CoV in 2012 and now the emergence of SARS-CoV-2, first reported to WHO in December 2019. Overall, enrolments in coronavirus-related courses make up 81.9% of total enrolments on the OpenWHO platform.
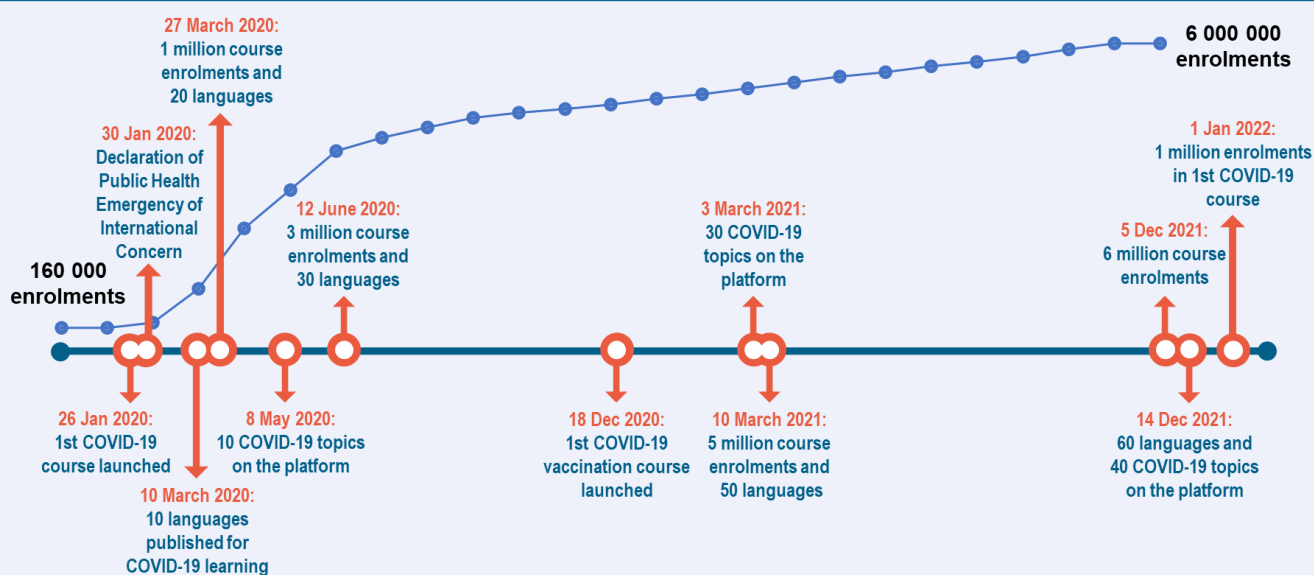
OpenWHO learning platform

Free of charge　　**Accessible**

Self paced　　**Multilingual**

Real-time training for COVID-19
Free online courses from WHO
Intro to COVID-19 | Health & safety | Clinical care | Prevention & control (IPC)
Protective equipment | Hand hygiene | Country capacitation | Treatment facilities | Field data tool | Mass gatherings | Long-term care
OpenWHO.org

OpenWHO.org: 2 YEARS OF PANDEMIC LEARNING RESPONSE

27 March 2020:
1 million course enrolments and 20 languages

30 Jan 2020:
Declaration of Public Health Emergency of International Concern

160 000 enrolments

12 June 2020:
3 million course enrolments and 30 languages

3 March 2021:
30 COVID-19 topics on the platform

6 000 000 enrolments

1 Jan 2022:
1 million enrolments in 1st COVID-19 course

5 Dec 2021:
6 million course enrolments

26 Jan 2020:
1st COVID-19 course launched

8 May 2020:
10 COVID-19 topics on the platform

18 Dec 2020:
1st COVID-19 vaccination course launched

10 March 2021:
5 million course enrolments and 50 languages

14 Dec 2021:
60 languages and 40 COVID-19 topics on the platform

10 March 2020:
10 languages published for COVID-19 learning

OpenWHO.org by World Health Organization

TOP COUNTRIES ON OpenWHO BEFORE AND DURING THE PANDEMIC

	January – December 2019		January – December 2020		January – December 2021
1	United States	1	India	1	Ecuador
2	India	2	United States	2	India
3	Nigeria	3	Ecuador	3	United States
4	United Kingdom	4	Mexico	4	Mexico
5	Dem Rep of Congo	5	Saudi Arabia	5	China
6	Portugal	6	Bangladesh	6	Philippines
7	South Sudan	7	Philippines	7	Indonesia
8	Kenya	8	Pakistan	8	Canada
9	Netherlands	9	United Kingdom	9	United Kingdom
10	France	10	Nigeria	10	Pakistan