

"Thank you for your hard work, compassion and empathy for sharing your knowledge with the aim of keeping everyone safe and empowered." - OpenWHO user, empowering communities course

OpenWHO News

The latest from WHO's open learning platform

HIGHLIGHTS

Celebrate with us on 1 June: Webinar to mark 5 years of OpenWHO online learning for health emergencies (p.1)

OpenWHO's 5-year journey spotlights the critical role of preparedness (p.2)

Now in Ukrainian and Polish: OpenWHO course on mental health and psychosocial support in emergencies (p.2)

Data snapshot: 5 years of OpenWHO by the numbers (p.3)

Celebrating 5 years of OpenWHO

Five years ago, WHO anticipated that a global health emergency would bring massive demand for trusted information and set out to launch a learning platform that breaks down as many barriers to access as possible. Courses would be free of charge, available in multiple formats to reflect learners' diverse preferences and levels of internet connectivity, and translated into the languages spoken by those affected by health emergencies. Thus the [OpenWHO.org](https://openwho.org) learning platform was born.

On 1 June, we are celebrating OpenWHO and the power of open online learning in health emergency response. **Please join us** for a webinar from 11:30-13:30 CEST to go behind the scenes of OpenWHO with WHO leaders and hear from partners about the impact of health emergency learning on vulnerable contexts. Register for the webinar [here](#) and visit our anniversary page [here](#) to learn more about our 5-year journey and help us celebrate this exciting milestone.

LATEST COURSES



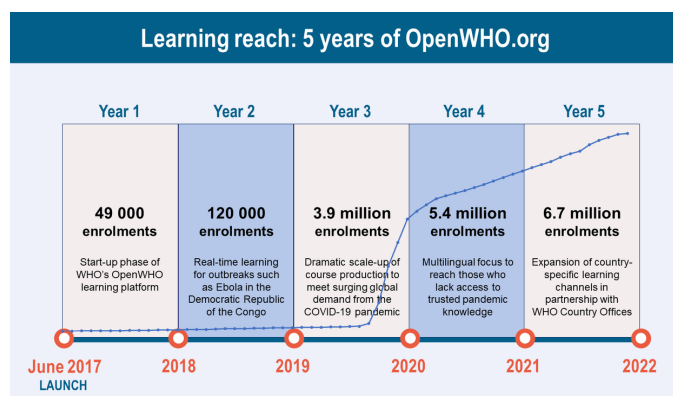
International Coordinating Group on Vaccine Provision and ICG mechanism to release emergency vaccines



Ultra-low temperature vaccine management



Social prescribing



Free online mental health course available in Ukrainian and Polish

A WHO online course that introduces participants to Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) in emergencies is now available in [Ukrainian](#) and [Polish](#).

This free OpenWHO course, also available in [English](#), presents how to apply existing practical, evidence-based, scalable tools and practice-led approaches for the successful implementation of projects to strengthen MHPSS in emergencies – all based on WHO, Inter-Agency Standing Committee and Sphere Handbook content.

The primary audience is humanitarian health sector staff seeking to integrate MHPSS into their programmes. The seven-hour, self-paced course offers a certificate for test-based achievement.

Надзвичайні ситуації мають психічні та психологічні наслідки. Ми можемо допомогти.

Приєднуйтеся до нашого безкоштовного онлайн-курсу:
Запровадження охорони психологічного здоров'я та психосоціальної підтримки у надзвичайних ситуаціях

OpenWHO.org

World Health Organization

Preparedness enabled massive reach of online learning for COVID-19

Open online learning has connected millions of people across the globe with science-based knowledge about the COVID-19 pandemic, thanks to groundwork that was laid years before the emergence of the novel coronavirus.

Launched in June 2017 in anticipation of the next pandemic, [OpenWHO.org](#) focused its learning offerings on pandemic- and epidemic-prone diseases and emergency management, with its first course addressing Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV). By the end of its first year, OpenWHO had a modest 49 000 enrolments, growing to 120 000 enrolments during its second year as it supported frontline responders in localized outbreaks like Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

COVID-19 brought an exponential surge in demand for OpenWHO learning in early 2020 as people sought trusted information to protect themselves and their communities from the new health threat. Enrolments climbed from 160 000 in January 2020 to 3 million just six months later, growing to 6.7 million course enrolments today.

The platform's journey exemplifies the critical role of preparedness. OpenWHO built on its existing systems to quickly launch a global learning response to COVID-19, helping cement the role of online learning as an essential element in the response to health emergencies.

5 YEARS OF OpenWHO.org

Since June 2017



155
course topics



28
infectious
diseases



46
courses
for COVID-19



12
courses for pandemic
potential diseases



13
courses for influenza
& pandemic influenza



64
languages



12 million
words translated



3.6 million
certificates



140 thousand
digital badges



6.7 million
course
enrolments



World Health
Organization