



NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OPERATION CENTER (PHEOC), ETHIOPIA

COVID-19 PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE IN ETHIOPIA

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Epi-Week - 14 (April 04 – 10, 2022)

BULLETIN №: 102

I. Highlights

- A total of 32,161 laboratory samples were tested in the Epi-Week-14 bringing the total number of samples tested to 4,704,274.
- A total of 231 new confirmed COVID-19 cases and 5 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-14 bringing the total cases and death to 470,050 and 7,509 respectively.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 17 which is equivalent to the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (16).
- A total of 384,584 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been managed at Home Based Isolation and Care so far; 5,891 of these were enrolled in the Epi-Week-14.
- Discussions were held with officials from all levels of the Ministry of Health, Gavi, UNICEF and the World Health Organization on the availability and coverage of COVID-19 vaccine.



Figure 1: Officials from the Ministry of Health with international partners, April 08, 2022

II. Epidemiological Situation

a. Global Situation

- Globally, during the week of 4 through 10 April 2022, the number of new COVID-19 cases has continued to decline for the third consecutive week, with a 24% decrease as compared to the previous week. Also the number of new weekly deaths continues the decreasing trend (-18% as compared to the previous week).
- Across the six WHO regions, over 7 million cases and over 22 000 deaths were reported, with all the regions showing decreasing trends both in the number of new weekly cases and new weekly deaths.
- As of 10 April 2022, over 496 million confirmed cases and over 6 million deaths have been reported globally.

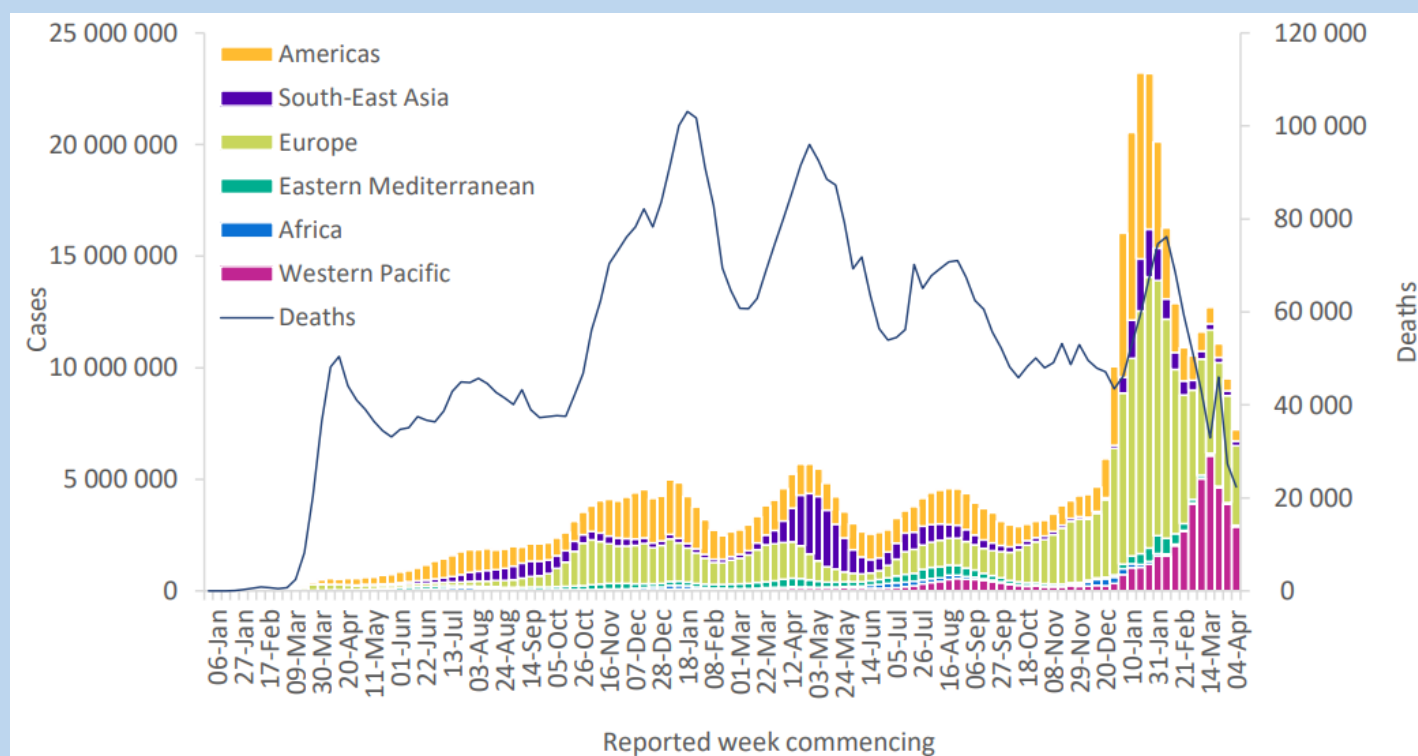


Figure 2: COVID-19 cases reported weekly by WHO Region, and global deaths, as of 10 April 2022 (source: WHO)

b. National COVID-19 situation:

- As of April 10, 2022, a total of 469,819 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 7,504 deaths were recorded in the country with a case fatality rate of 1.60%.
- Two-hundred-thirty-one (231) newly confirmed COVID-19 cases and 5 COVID-19 related deaths were reported during the Epi-Week-14.
- In this week, there is 17% increase in the number of COVID-19 confirmed cases and more than 58% decrease in the number of deaths due to COVID-19 compared to the previous week.
- For detail, see the summary dashboard below.

NB: Data from Tigray regional state is as of June 28, 2021.

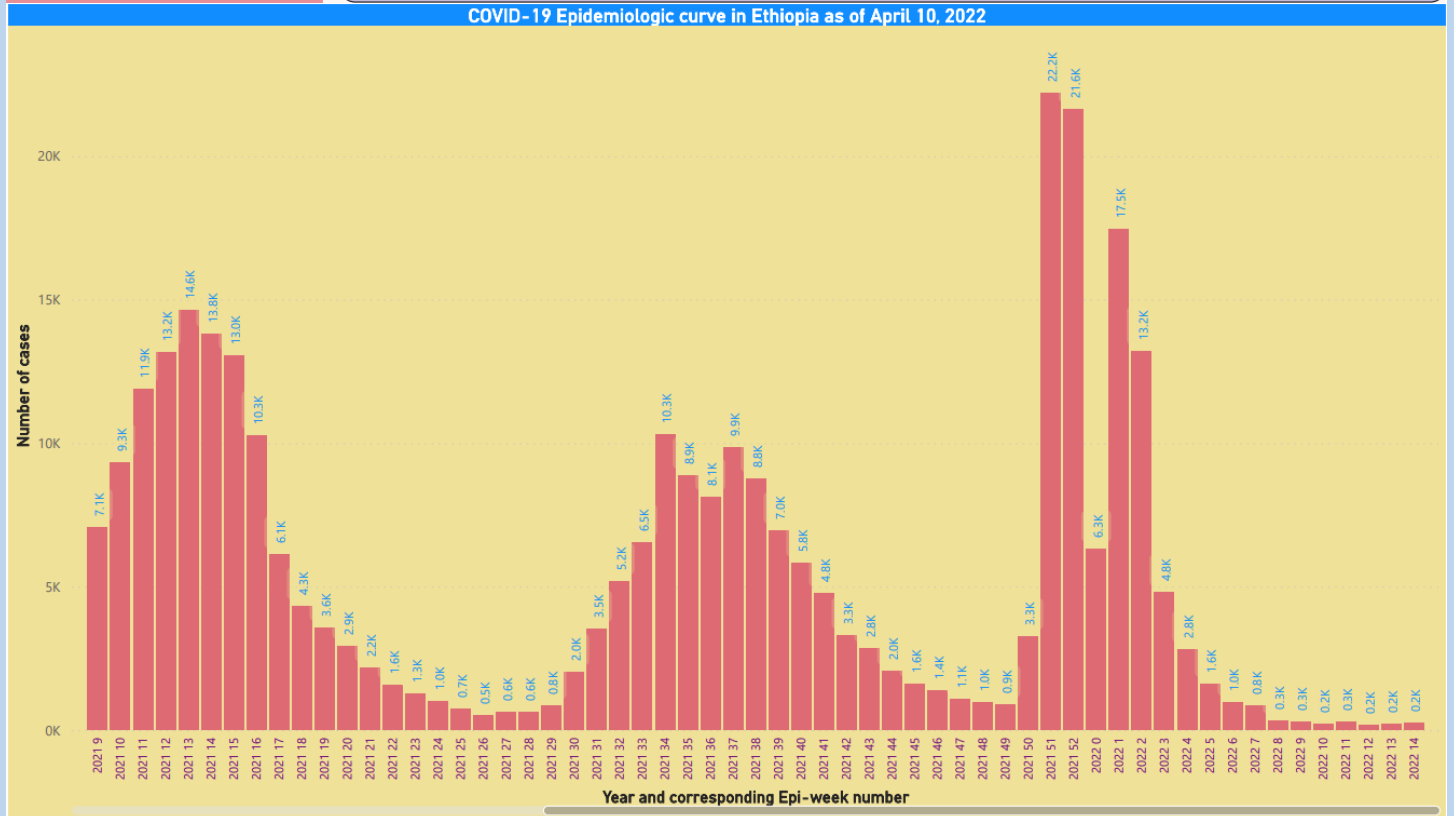
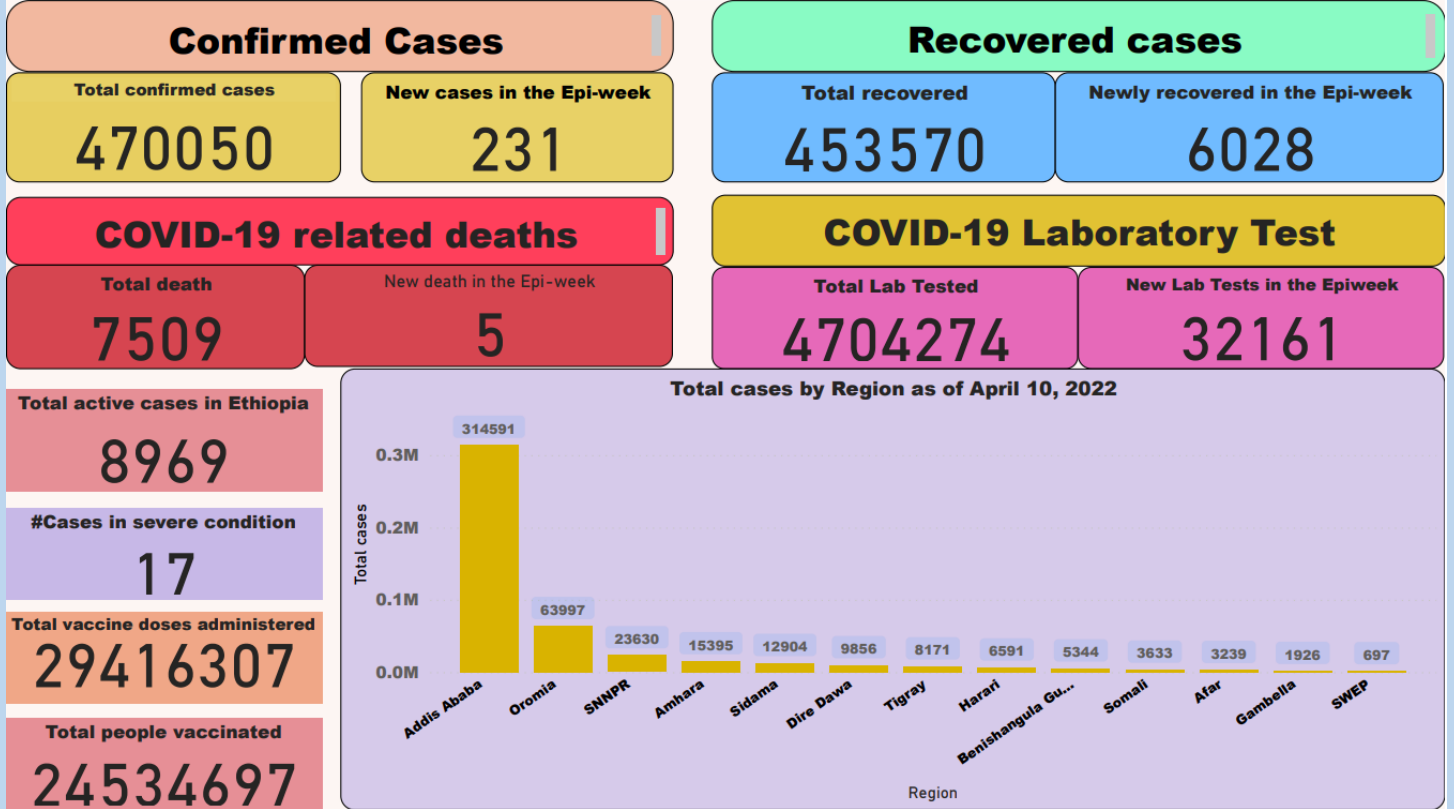


Figure 3: Summary of the COVID-19 situation in Ethiopia as of April 10, 2022, Ethiopia

III. Laboratory related activities

- As of 10 April 2022, a total of 4,704,274 samples have been tested for COVID-19 by laboratories across the country.
- 32,161 laboratory tests were processed during the Epi-Week-14 which is an 8% decrease compared to number of tests performed in the previous week.
- The laboratory test positivity rate for the Epi-Week-14 is 0.72%, which is a bit higher than that of the preceding week (0.57%).

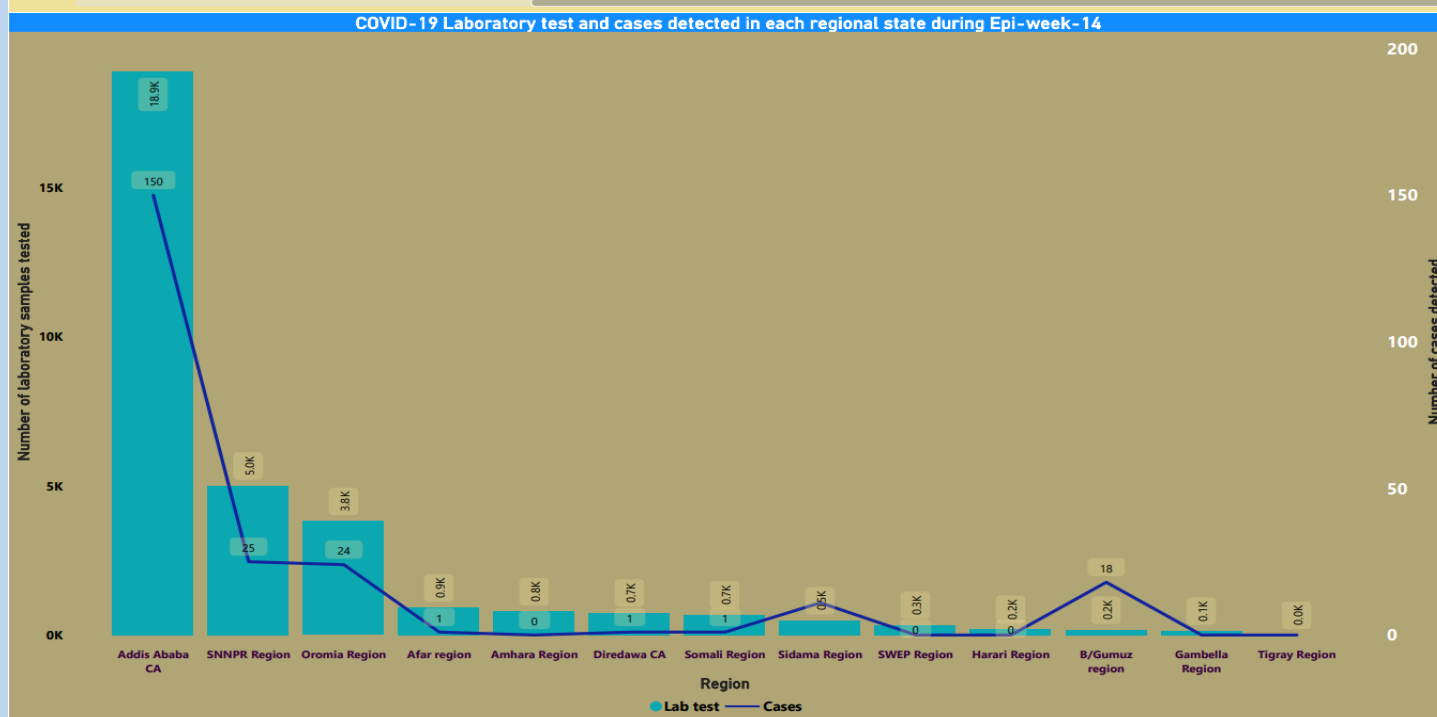
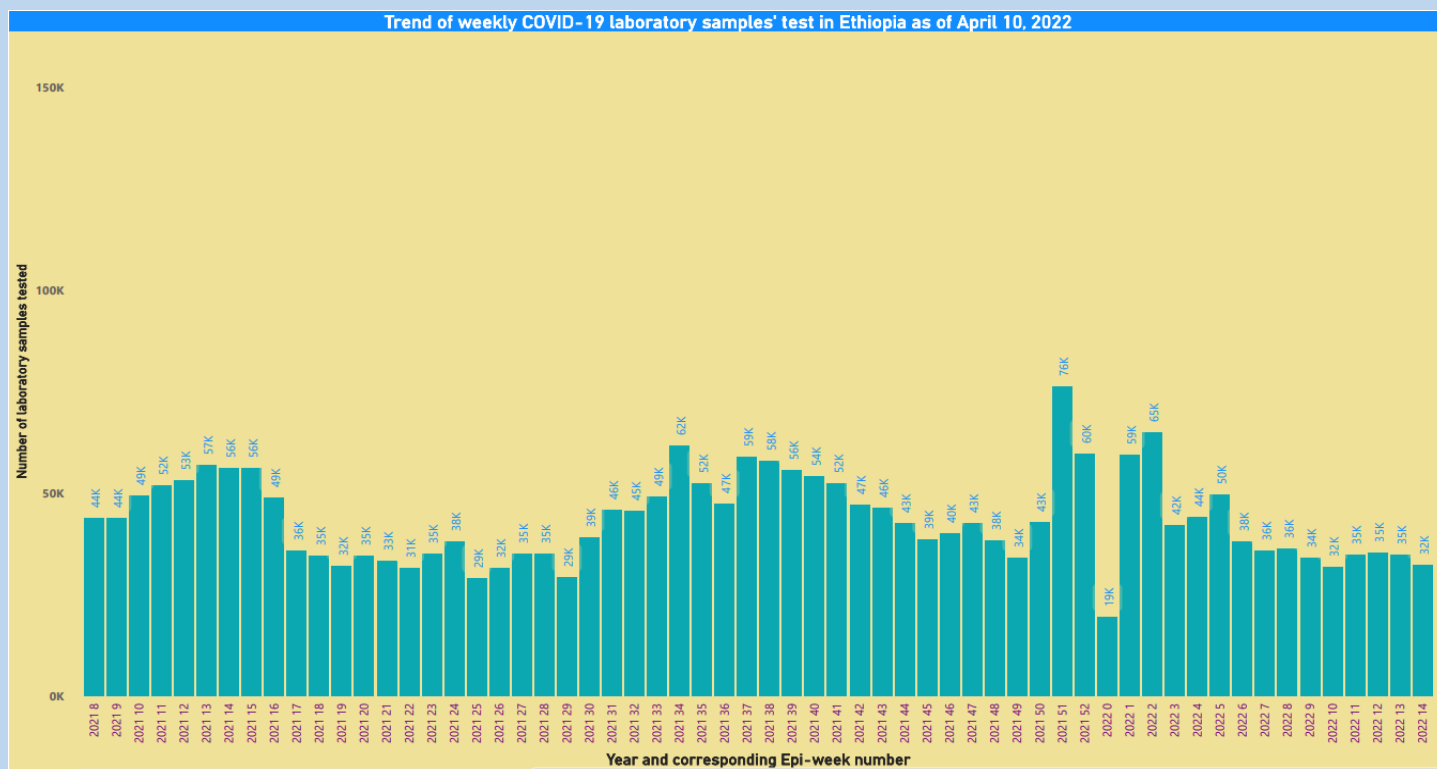


Figure 4: Summary of COVID-19 laboratory testing as of April 10, 2022, Ethiopia.

IV. Case Management and Facility Readiness

a. COVID-19 treatment center

- There were total of 6,028 newly recovered COVID-19 cases during the Epi-Week-14, bringing the total number of recovered cases to 453,570 (both from COVID-19 treatment center and from HBIC). This brings the overall recovery rate to 96%.
- In this week the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition is 17 which is equivalent to the maximum number of daily cases in severe condition in the previous week (16).

b. Home Based Isolation and Care (HBIC):

- So far, 385,104 COVID-19 confirmed cases have been on HBIC. 384,584 of them (99%) have recovered and 50 (0.014%) died.
- Of these, 5,991 cases have been enrolled to HBIC and 5,891 cases have recovered in the Epi-Week-14.
- As of April 10, 2022, there are 523 cases on HBIC.
- So far, 2,525 (88 in the Epi-week-14) of the cases have been transferred from treatment centers to HBIC after improvement.
- So far, 1,321 (none in the Epi-week-14) of the cases have been transferred from HBIC to treatment centers for better care.

V. Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE)

- Media (mass media and social media) monitoring on COVID-19 related information is ongoing.
- Risk communication and awareness creation activities are ongoing.
- COVID-19 related key messages and updates shared on social media.



Figure 5: COVID-19 situation update as of April 10, 2022 shared on social media.

VI. Coordination and Leadership

- The national PHEOC is collaboratively working with stakeholders: government agencies, partner organizations, UN agencies, embassies, hospitals, Industrial parks and others.
- Morning briefing of IMS is being conducted every day by core IMS staffs and key partners' representatives.
- Weekly joint meeting is ongoing, every Tuesday, among the national and regional Emergency Operations Centers COVID-19 response IMS (Incident Management System) to evaluate weekly COVID-19 situations, progress of response strategies, challenges faced and way forwards.
- The virtual meeting of Joint Steering Committee encompassing MOH, Agencies and RHB top leadership under the leadership of H.E Minister of Health is ongoing once in two weeks.
- Discussions were held with officials from all levels of the Ministry of Health, Gavi, UNICEF and the World Health Organization on the availability and coverage of COVID-19 vaccine.
 - State Minister of Health, HE. Dr. Dereje Duguma, thanked the partners for their dedicated support in providing access to vaccination services over the past several years and said that stakeholders have been instrumental in responding to the prevention and control of the covid pandemic.
 - According to the State Minister, besides the political commitment of the government, the involvement of the partner organizations have been crucial for the increase of the national vaccine coverage from 4% to the current above 20% and the building of a resilient health system. He also said that this should be strengthened and continued in the future. HE. Dr. Dereje Duguma added that work is underway to adequately coordinate and integrate covid-19 vaccination with routine health services in order to make it accessible to users of the health facilities.
 - Mr. Ted Chaiban, Global Lead Coordinator for COVID-19 Vaccine Country-Readiness and Delivery, expressed his gratitude to the Ministry of Health for the excelling record on the increase of national vaccine coverage and access to vaccination.
 - He also said that in order to achieve the goal set by the country, it is important to focus on access to vaccines for the elderly, the community in need of special attention and for those displaced for various reasons.
 - During the meeting, it was stated that coordinated and strengthened work should be done for those affected by drought and conflict as well as citizens in inaccessible areas by allocating the necessary budget.



Figure 6: Officials from the Ministry of Health with international partners, April 08, 2022

VII. Challenges and Way Forward

a. Challenges

- Poor adherence to the public health and social measures by public figures and leaders.
- Poor attention given to COVID-19 at all levels by all responsible bodies.
- Weak law enforcement efforts to enhance adherence to COVID-19 prevention and control measures.
- COVID-19 vaccine related misinformation and hesitancy.

b. Way Forward

- Integrating COVID-19 response with the essential health services.
- Enhancing COVID-19 vaccination
- Enhancing law enforcement to enhance public health and social measures by all responsible bodies.
- Intensifying risk communication and community engagement activities.
- Strengthening collaboration and coordination with key stakeholders and partners.
- Enhancing technical support, coordination and timely and accurate information sharing at all levels.
- Generating scientific evidence and forecast regarding COVID-19 progress.

VIII. Public Health Policy Recommendation

Advice for the Public:

- COVID-19 vaccines should be provided to the public only at public health facilities and free of charge. According to the program developed by the Ministry of Health, COVID-19 vaccines are still being given to priority groups at public health institutions at all levels.
- For any individual confirmed to have COVID-19 and who is candidate for Home Based Isolation and Care:

- Properly isolate from other family members.
 - Take full responsibility in prevention of transmission
 - Strictly adhere to the National Directive of Home-Based Isolation & Care.
 - Provide reliable information during regular follow up either by phone or home visit.
 - Report to nearest health facilities/follow up team in case of any emergency, appearance of new symptoms or worsening of existing symptoms.
- It is important to be informed of the situation and act appropriately to protect yourself and your family.
 - Wash hands frequently;
 - Don't touch your mouth, nose or eye by unwashed hands;
 - Keep physical distancing; avoid mass gathering and shaking hands;
 - Get vaccinated against COVID-19.
 - For most people, COVID-19 infection will cause mild illness however, it can make some people very ill and, in some people, it can be fatal.
 - Older people, and those with pre-existing medical conditions (such as cardiovascular disease, chronic respiratory disease or diabetes) are at risk for severe disease.
 - If anybody had contact with a COVID-19 confirmed patient, he/she should call 8335 or report to regional toll-free lines or to the nearby health facilities.

National/Regional official websites, social media pages and toll-free hotline for COVID-19 information

MOH/EPHI/Region	Facebook page	Toll-free hotline	Email address (PHEOCs email)
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Main Website	https://www.ephi.gov.et/	8335	ephieoc@gmail.com
Ethiopian Public Health Institute COVID-19 Website	https://covid19.ephi.gov.et/		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/ephipage/		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Twitter Page	https://twitter.com/EPHIEthiopia		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute Telegram Channel	https://t.me/EthPHI		
Ethiopian Public Health Institute YouTube Channel	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvTzeY-IJiQfEFBULH9Mkw		
Ministry of Health, Ethiopia Website	www.moh.gov.et	952	
Ministry of Health, Ethiopia Facebook Page	https://www.facebook.com/EthiopiaFMoH/		
Afar Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/afarrhb.org/	6220	afarpheoc@gmail.com
Amhara Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Amhara-Healthbureau-682065755146948/	6981	aphieoc@gmail.com
Benishangul Gumuz Regional Health Bureau	https://www.facebook.com/Benishangul-Gumuz-Health-Bureau-1676282159265517/	6016	bgpheoc@gmail.com
Gambela Regional Health	https://fb.me/gambellaregionhealth	6184	gambellapheoc@gmail.com

Bureau			bureau		
Harari Bureau	Regional	Health	https://www.facebook.com/Harari-Regional-Health-Bureau-1464182130355007/	6864	hrrbpheoc@gmail.com
Oromia Bureau	Regional	Health	https://www.facebook.com/OromiaHealth/	6955	oromiapheoc@gmail.com
Somali Bureau	Regional	Health	https://www.facebook.com/srhbdotcom/...	6599	somalipheoc@gmail.com
SNNP Bureau	Regional	Health	https://www.facebook.com/snnprhealthbureau/?ref=br_rs	6929	snnppheoc@gmail.com
Tigray Bureau	Regional	Health	https://www.facebook.com/tigrayrhb/	6244	tigraypheoc@gmail.com
Sidama PHEM				7794	sidaamapheoc@gmail.com
South West Ethiopia PHEM		RHB			swepheoc@gmail.com
Dire Dawa Administration Bureau	Dawa	city Health	https://www.facebook.com/Dire-Dawa-Administration-Health-Bureau-1371606266279524/	6407	ddpheoc@gmail.com
Addis Ababa Administration Bureau	Ababa	City Health	https://www.facebook.com/aahb.gov.et/	6406	aapheoc@gmail.com

COVID-19 updates and sources of evidence:

Source	Link
WHO Coronavirus (COVID-19) dashboard	https://covid19.who.int/
Africa CDC Dashboard, COVID-19 Surveillance Dashboard	https://au.int/en/covid19
WHO COVID-19 daily situation reports	https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports
WHO Academy mobile learning app for health workers, COVID-19 information	Android- https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=org.who.WHOA Apple- https://apps.apple.com/us/app/who-academy/id1506019873



The above presented Quick Reader (QR) code takes you to a portal that you can access updates and all COVID-19 related information available (<https://covid19.ephi.gov.et/covid-19/>)

DISCLAIMER

This weekly bulletin is produced based on figures pulled from official releases of the World Health Organization and activities and reports of all the sections under the Incident management System.

This Weekly Bulletin series of publications is published by the Ethiopian public health Institute (EPHI), public health emergency operation center (PHEOC). The aim of this bulletin is to inform decision makers within the institute and FMOH, UN agencies and NGOs about COVID-19 preparedness and response activities.

All interested health and other professionals can get this bulletin at the Institute website; www.ephi.gov.et

PREPARED BY

Fantu Lombamo (MD, MPH in Field Epidemiology) – Planning Section, Situation Unit Leader
Negusse Yohannes (PhD in Statistics) – Planning Section, Situation Unit Member

REVIEWED BY

Zewdu Assefa (MPH) – PHE Early Warning and Information System Management P/D/A/Director
Ahimed Mohammed (MD, MPH) - Planning Section Chief
Mikiyas Teferi (MD) - Deputy Incident Manager, Case Management Section Chief
Aschalew Abayneh (RN, BSc, MPH) - DDG-EPHI, Incident Manager

**National COVID-19 Response Incident Management system, Emergency Operation Center
FOR MORE INFORMATION and NOTIFICATION**

Web: www.ephi.gov.et

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Call: 8335 (TOLL FREE LINE) or 011 276 5340

Email: ephieoc@gmail.com or phemdatacenter@gmail.com