

WHO Medical Devices December 2020 Newsletter

Dear colleagues,

2020, an unprecedented year of public health relevance, is about to end.

The medical devices played a key role in protection, diagnosis and treatment! Thank you to all that ensured the quality of the products and make them accessible to all those that needed them. But still much more needs to be done, so we look forward to continue working together to ensure medical devices are available, affordable, of good quality and used appropriately and safely by everybody, everywhere, to increase wellbeing of all.

Hereby wishing you a healthier, safer and happier 2021 for all.

Please find the following 3 sections of this last newsletter of 2020:

1. **Annual WHO communication;**
2. **Interim guidance, publications and training material;**
3. **Ongoing projects on medical devices, November-December 2020 ;**

December 2020 WHO news

1.1 WHO'S COVID-19 response

<https://www.who.int/news-room/spotlight/a-year-without-precedent-who-s-covid-19-response/>



1.2 COVID-19: One year later – WHO Director-General's new year message

<https://www.who.int/news/item/30-12-2020-covid-19-anniversary-and-looking-forward-to-2021>



COVID-19: One year later – WHO Director-General's new year message



30 December 2020 | Statement | Geneva, Switzerland | Reading time

Media Contacts

1.3 10 Global health issues to track in 2021

<https://www.who.int/news-room/spotlight/10-global-health-issues-to-track-in-2021>



10 global health issues to track in 2021

1.4 Science in 5

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/media-resources/science-in-5>



Science in 5 is WHO's conversation in science.

2. Interim guidance, publications, consultations and training material for COVID-19

2.1 Interim guidance

1. On Medical devices:

Priority medical devices for COVID-19 and associated technical specifications (20 Nov 2020): <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-MedDev-TS-O2T.V2>

2. On the Personal protective equipment:

Technical Specifications (13 Nov

2020) https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-PPE_specifications-2020.1

On the use of masks: [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](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)

Use of masks for children: https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-IPC_Masks-Children-2020.1

Rational use of personal protective equipment for coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and considerations during severe shortages (23 December 2020)

[https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/rational-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-for-coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-and-considerations-during-severe-shortages](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/rational-use-of-personal-protective-equipment-for-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-and-considerations-during-severe-shortages)

Mask use in the context of COVID-19, (1 December 2020)

[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](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)

3. On in-vitro diagnostics,

Information about emergency use listing, <https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/vitro-diagnostics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-pandemic-%E2%80%94-emergency-use-listing-procedure-eul-open> (new website)

Laboratory assessment <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/laboratory-assessment-tool-for-laboratories-implementing-covid-19-virus-testing> (23 October 2020)

Antigen-detection in the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection using rapid immunoassays (11 September 2020) <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/antigen-detection-in-the-diagnosis-of-sars-cov-2infection-using-rapid-immunoassays>

4. On the role of imaging diagnostics

You can find the role of ultrasound, chest X rays and CT scanners,

here. <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/use-of-chest-imaging-in-covid-19>

And you can review chapter 8 of the Priority medical devices for COVID for the technical specifications <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-MedDev-TS-O2T.V2>

5. The Emergency Global Supply catalogue. Updated 11 November 2020.

[https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/emergency-global-supply-chain-system-\(covid-19\)-catalogue](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/emergency-global-supply-chain-system-(covid-19)-catalogue)

2.2 Training and learning. Check for new courses.

<https://openwho.org/>

“OpenWHO is WHO’s interactive, web-based, knowledge-transfer platform offering online courses to improve the response to health emergencies.

OpenWHO enables the Organization and its key partners to transfer life-saving knowledge to large numbers of frontline responders.”

<https://www.who.int/about/who-academy/>

“With COVID-19 science now doubling every 20 days and new guidance being published daily by WHO, the WHO Academy continues to improve its COVID - 19 mobile learning app so that health workers can keep up with the constantly evolving knowledge related to this disease.”

2.3 Consultation

“OXYGEN Draft proposal for revision in *The International Pharmacopoeia*”

We invite you to review the following draft working document which will be posted on the WHO Medicines website under “*Monographs and general texts under review/revision for inclusion in The International Pharmacopoeia*”:

<https://www.who.int/teams/health-product-and-policy-standards/standards-and-specifications/pharmaceuticals/working-documents-public-consultation>

Please use the attached **form** to provide your comments

Contact: Herbert Schmidt
(schmidth@who.int);

Deadline 26 February 2021

3. Ongoing projects November-December 2020 and vacancies

3.1 Consultants and experts are working on the following projects and plan to deliver publications or reports in the first quarter 2021. The following table includes names, contacts and status of activities:

Project	Objective	Status of activity	Email contact and consultants
Nomenclature of medical devices	Follow up the 145/3 https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB145/B145_3-en.pdf	Annotated agenda for Executive Board 148/11 in January 2021 https://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB148/B148_1(annotated)-en.pdf All documents will be posted in : https://apps.who.int/gb/e/e_eb148.html Member States briefing in January 2021. More information will be available. (to come)	medicaldevices@who.int Eunice Conceicao, Terrie Reed.
Innovative technologies for low resource setting	b. Assess innovative technologies: specifications, regulations, HTA, in the intended settings	Compendium of Innovative Health Technologies for Low Resource Settings 2020. Innovative technologies have been submitted at WHO SURVEY . The complete questionnaire is available in word for your reference here Thanks for volunteers to assess survey , and your expertise and conflict of interest will be considered. The assessments will be finalized in January for publication in Q1, 2021.	techinnovation@who.int Gabriela Jimenez Moyao Caroline Soyars Cesar Burgi Vieira Global Clinical Engineering Alliance EUROSCAN Kim Walker Consulting

			
Update of Global Atlas of medical devices, Updated of country data	b. support facility assessments of biomedical equipment including oxygen sources, (inventory survey listed above) support the provision of country information <i>for any of the surveys mentioned section 2 above</i>	<p>1. Go to https://www.who.int/medical_devices/countries/en/</p> <p>2. Search for your country in the word version: Atlas Word document to update your country profile [Word, 4.62mb]</p> <p>1. Related links: - WHO Global Atlas of medical devices , 2017 [pdf, 11.63mb] - Country profiles - Medical devices regulatory systems at country level - Global Health Observatory (GHO) interactive maps on medical devices - Global health observatory, data repository</p> <p>ALL Focal points of Global Atlas, have been contacted in November – December to provide updated information.</p> <p>2. Also MOH can send requests or changes to medicaldevices@who.int as needed before 6th January 2021.</p>	medicaldevices@who.int Heike Hufnagel Valeria Montant Ricardo Martinez
Facility surveys	To assess availability of health products, WHO has developed several tools, can be found	<p>https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCov-biomedical-equipment-inventory-2020.1: https://o2therapy.surveycto.com/collect/who_covid_oxygen_the_rapy_scto_open?caseid= Username:biomedequipment Password: facilityoxygen20 https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-HCF_assessment-Products-2020.1 https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-HCF_assessment-Safe_environment-2020.1</p> 	COVID-MED-DEVICES@who.int Valeria Montant Barun Rauniyar
Training on safe use, maintenance, of medical devices	Consolidate, assess and/ or develop training for best use and maintenance of medical devices	If you have publicly available training material willing to share, please send to covid-med-devices@who.int where it is being reviewed, assessed, and can become publicly available to support safe and appropriate use of Priority medical devices in general and specially for COVID-19,	COVID-MED-DEVICES@who.int Bill Gentles and Tobey Clark
Prequalification model for med devices and PPE	Develop a draft PQ model for medical devices including PPE		Stefano Bergamasco; Sasikala Thangavelu; Alison Syrett; Mohid Khan; Riad Farah; Dragana Milic; Laurence

			Matheron; Ilaria Sirocich
Country consultations	Assess innovations, support training material, facility assessment		Joshua Tim, Martha Mulerwa, Mulugeta Mideksa; Thierry Houngbo;
Medical devices page	Organization of material for updated website		Daniela Rodriguez
Donations of medical devices	Consolidate information on donated equipment status, use of guidance documents, and how to improve donations	https://www.who.int/medical_devices/management_use/managements/en/ 	medicaldevices@who.int Dinsie Williams and Humatem
Local production and technology transfer of: medical equipment, personal protective equipment, IVDs and other medical devices	Support C-TAP and Technology Access Partnership to increase access of essential and priority health products	https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/covid-19-technology-access-pool and https://techaccesspartnership.net/ 	COVID-MED-DEVICES@who.int Einstein Kesi Mohid Khan Rainer Voelksen Dragana Milic
MEDEVIS	Priority Medical Devices Information system (to come)		medicaldevices@who.int Mario Forjas Secca Francesco Ribolzi Antonio Migliore Laura Lopez Meneses Fernando Prieto Evidence Prime

3.2 WHO VACANCIES:

Applications can be submitted on [WHO's career website, Stellis](#). The deadline for applications is Jan 15, 2021, 11:59:00 PM.

Technical Officer (Health Innovation) - (2004951)

Grade: P4; **Contractual Arrangement:** Fixed-term appointment; **Contract Duration (Years, Months, Days):** 2 years; **Closing Date :** Jan 15, 2021, 11:59:00 PM; **Primary**

Location: Switzerland-Geneva;

Organization : HQ/DHI Digital Health and Innovation; **Schedule :** Full-time

Wishing you a peaceful, healthy, joyful 2021 for all, everywhere.