

# WHO Global Clinical Platform for COVID-19

Data for public health response

Clinical features and prognostic factors of COVID-19 in people living with HIV hospitalized with suspected or confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection

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# **Abbreviations**

aHR	adjusted hazard ratio
aOR	adjusted odds ratio
ART	antiretroviral therapy
BMI	body mass index
CI	confidence interval
HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
SAP	statistical analysis plan
WHO	World Health Organization
PLHIV	people living with HIV

# Background

Available published evidence on the impact of HIV infection on severity and mortality associated with COVID-19 is limited and conflicting, and analyses have been based primarily on small cohorts of individuals in specific settings (1-7).

A retrospective cohort study in the United Kingdom found that people living with HIV (PLHIV) appear to be at increased risk for mortality (8). A retrospective cohort study in the United States of America found that while PLHIV do not appear to be at increased risk of infection, they are at increased risk for poor outcomes (mainly owing to higher rates of severe disease requiring hospitalization). In this sample of patients, the risk of hospitalization increased with the progression of HIV disease (9). Data from South Africa showed HIV to be an independent risk factor for in-hospital mortality (10).

Data from meta-analyses are also inconsistent. One meta-analysis found that HIV infection was not associated with poor composite outcomes (11). However, two meta-analyses found that PLHIV had a moderately increased risk of mortality than compared with people without HIV (12, 13).

Additional evidence from larger datasets with a broader geographical representation is required to expand the understanding of the interplay between HIV and SARS-CoV2 co-infection and guide global discussion on optimal clinical care for PLHIV who are infected with SARS-CoV-2.

To expand the understanding of clinical characteristics and prognostic factors among patients hospitalized with suspected or confirmed COVID-19, and to inform optimal clinical management and interventions, the World Health Organization (WHO) has established the Global Clinical Platform, which is a secure web-based database including individual-level, anonymized clinical data of hospitalized patients with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 from health facilities across the globe. The WHO Global Clinical Platform is intended to provide Member States with a standardized clinical data collection system to characterize the natural history of COVID-19; identify risk factors for severe disease and poor outcomes; and describe treatment interventions and outcomes among adults, children, and subpopulations, including pregnant women and PLHIV.

## **Objectives of the analysis**

This report describes the demographics, clinical presentation, clinical outcomes, and risk factors among PLHIV who have been hospitalized for suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

The specific objectives of the analysis were to:

- · describe the clinical characteristics and outcomes of PLHIV hospitalized for COVID-19
- assess whether PLHIV hospitalized with COVID-19 were at increased risk of presenting with severe or critical illness at admission and were at increased risk of in-hospital death compared to individuals not infected with HIV
- assess risk factors associated with severe or critical illness at hospital admission and of in-hospital death among PLHIV hospitalized for COVID-19.

# **Methods**

We conducted a preliminary analysis of anonymized patient-level clinical data submitted to the WHO Global Clinical Platform for COVID-19 between 1 January 2020 and 29 April 2021 by a mix of national registries and sentinel health facilities from 37 countries.

## **Data Collection Tools**

Two options exist to contribute data to the WHO Clinical Platform: i) use of the WHO Case Report Form (CRF), which exists in both paper-based or electronic formats, and ii) data entered into a local system or database. For locally entered data, relevant variables were mapped and aligned to the WHO CRF data dictionary and transferred to the WHO Clinical Platform hosted on OpenClinica.

The WHO CRF contains a standardized set of variables, including demographics, severity, medications, comorbidities, and clinical outcomes (discharged alive to home, in-hospital mortality, transfer to another facility for further care, remaining in the hospital at the time of data entry and discharged to palliative care or hospice). The CRF is divided into three modules. Module1 is completed on the first day of inpatient admission to the healthcare facility, module 2 is completed daily during hospital stay for as many days as resources allow and module 3 is completed at the time of discharge or death. The CRF has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, Spanish and Portuguese.

## **Inclusion Criteria**

All patients, regardless of age, with known HIV status and admitted to a hospital or health facility with laboratory-confirmed or suspected COVID-19 were included in the analysis.

## **Statistical Analysis**

Descriptive and regression analyses were conducted to summarize demographic and clinical characteristics and to evaluate their association with HIV status, disease severity at hospital admission and in-hospital mortality. Records with missing data were excluded when determining distributions across outcome levels, and chi-square tests and student t-tests were used to assess the relationship between clinical characteristics and outcomes.

The two clinical outcomes of interest were **in-hospital mortality** (yes vs no) and **clinical severity**, defined as follows. Cases were defined as **severe or critical** if they met one or more of the following conditions at hospital admission: 1) SpO2: <90%; 2) respiratory rate: >30 breaths/minute in adults and children over 5 years old; 3) received extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO); 4) admitted to an Intensive Care Unit (ICU); 5) received an inotrope or vasopressor; and 6) received oxygen therapy or ventilation. Cases not meeting all the conditions described above, and those meeting the conditions below were described as **mild or moderate**: 1) SpO2: ≥90% without supplemental oxygen; 2) respiratory rate: ≤30 breaths/minute in adults and children over 5 years old, and 3) did not receive oxygen therapy or ventilation.

A logistic regression model using generalized estimating equations (GEE) was fitted to evaluate whether HIV infection was a risk for severe or critical illness at admission, and a proportional hazards model (that adjusted in variance estimation for clustering at the country level) was fitted to evaluate whether HIV infection was a risk factor for mortality. Age ( $\leq$ 65 years, >65 years), sex (male, female) with the binary indicator for HIV positive status (yes/no) were included in the model a priori.

Covariates were considered for inclusion in the model when >80% reported data was not highly correlated with other variables using a correlation matrix threshold of >0.8, and they were associated with both the outcome (severity or mortality) and exposure (HIV status) at p<0.10 level. After covariate selection, they were then retained in the final model if further found to be significant at p<0.05 level.

Based on the above criteria, the following underlying conditions were considered in the analysis: chronic cardiac disease, diabetes, hypertension, chronic pulmonary disease, tuberculosis, asthma and malignant neoplasms. A second model included categories of the number of underlying conditions or "comorbidity burden" (none, 1-2 underlying conditions, and  $\geq$ 3 underlying conditions) to determine if the number of conditions, rather than the individual conditions themselves, had an impact on severe or critical illness and mortality.

A subgroup analysis stratifying mortality risk by WHO geographical region to determine the impact of WHO Region of origin on mortality was also conducted. Regression analysis was repeated in the restricted sample of PLHIV to evaluate risk factors for disease severity at admission (logistic model) and risk factors for mortality (proportional hazards model).

In a sensitivity analysis, the regression models were repeated, excluding individuals from South Africa, which represented the main data contributor and accounted for 94.6% of the data.

All analyses were conducted in SAS version 9.4 (Copyright (c) 2016 by SAS Institute Inc., Cary, North Carolina, United States of America) or R version 3.6.3 (R: A Language and Environment for Statistical Computing, R Core Team, R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria 2020, https://www.R-project.org) and maps were drawn using ARCGIS Pro Release 2.5.0 (Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI), 2020. Redlands, California, United States of America).



As of 29 April 2021, 37 countries had contributed data to the WHO Global COVID-19 Clinical Data Platform with clinical information on 268 412 patients hospitalized with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 (**Fig. 1a**). 24 countries contributed clinical data on PLHIV (**Fig. 1b**).<sup>1</sup>

In this global sample, 9.2% (15 522/168 649) of cases hospitalized with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 were HIV positive; and 96.1% (14 914/15 522) of the PLHIV included in the analysis were from the WHO African Region, with 94.6% (14 682/15 522) of cases reported from South Africa alone.

Among PLHIV, 37.1% (5737/15 442) were male, the mean age was 45.5 years, 91.8% (8842/9631) were on ART, and 36.2% (5613/15 522) had severe or critical illness on hospital admission. Among the severe cases, 89.8% (5039/5611) were ≤65 years of age and 39.1% (2187/5596) were male. Overall, the mean duration from hospital admission to death or discharge was 9.5 days (SD 13.4, n= 14,776).



**Fig. 1a.** Countries contributing clinical data to the WHO Global Clinical Platform for COVID-19 as of 29 April 2021

<sup>1</sup> Argentina, Belarus, Brazil, Cameroon, Chile, China, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Guinea, India, Italy, Jordan, Nigeria, Panama, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom, United States of America, Zambia, Zimbabwe. **Fig. 1b.** Countries<sup>1</sup> contributing clinical data on people living with HIV to the WHO Global Clinical Platform for COVID-19 as of 29 April 2021



**Table 1.** Demographic characteristics of people living with HIV hospitalized with suspected or confirmed

 COVID-19

Characteristics		People living w	People living with HIV (n=15 522)	
		n	%	
Age	≤65 years	14 101	92.6	
	>65 years	1 132	7.4	
Age group	≤18 years	229	1.5	
	18-45 years	7513	49.3	
	46-65 years	6359	41.7	
	66-75 years	920	6.0	
	>75 years	212	1.4	
Sex	Male	5737	37.2	
	Female	9705	62.9	
Pregnant	Yes	729	7.5	
Health care worker	Yes	328	2.2	
	No	14 636	97.8	



Fig. 2. Distribution of people living with HIV hospitalized with COVID-19 by age and sex

Total number of hospitalized cases

Reported underlying conditions<sup>2</sup> in PLHIV are shown in **Fig. 3**. The most common underlying conditions were hypertension (33.2%), diabetes (22.7%) and obesity (16.9%). The presence of one or more underlying conditions was reported at the time of admission in 55.5% (7752/13 975) of PLHIV. Among those, 61% reported having one underlying condition, and 28.7% reported two underlying conditions. 10% had three or more underlying conditions. 13% (1548/11 873) were reported to be co-infected currently or previously with tuberculosis.

Hypertension 33.2% 22.7% Diabetes Obesity<sup>3</sup> 16.9% Tuberculosis 13.0% Chronic kidney disease 12.1% Chronic liver disease 12.1% Smoking 8.9% Asthma 7.2% Malnutrition 7.0% Chronic pulmonary disease 6.6% Chronic neurological disorder 6.2% Chronic cardiac disease 4.3% 1.7% Malignant neoplasm Asplenia 0.5%

Fig. 3. Frequency of underlying conditions among PLHIV hospitalized with COVID-19

<sup>2</sup> Asplenia, asthma, chronic cardiac disease, chronic kidney disease, chronic liver disease, chronic neurological disorder, chronic pulmonary disease, current smoker, diabetes, hypertension, malignant neoplasms, tuberculosis.

<sup>3</sup> Obesity is defined as Body Mass Index >30

23.1% (3578/15 463) of PLHIV with a known outcome died during the hospital stay. Mortality and other clinical outcomes in PLHIV presenting with severe/critical illness or mild/moderate illness are shown in **Fig. 4**.

# Fig. 4. Clinical outcomes among PLHIV hospitalized with COVID-19, stratified by severity of illness at hospital admission



Clinical outcomes included: 1) discharged to home, 2) died in hospital, 3) transferred (to another facility for further care), 4) remaining hospitalized at the time of data entry, and 5) discharged to palliative care or hospice

## HIV infection and risk of severe or critical illness at hospital admission

We assessed whether HIV infection was independently associated with a higher risk for severe or critical presentation of COVID-19 at hospital admission.

In this hospitalized population, PLHIV were at increased risk of severe or critical disease at hospital admission (aOR 1.06, 95% CI 1.02–1.11) compared to HIV-negative individuals, after adjusting for age, sex and the presence of underlying conditions (diabetes, tuberculosis, malignant neoplasms and chronic cardiac and pulmonary diseases). By including in the model the number of underlying conditions (comorbidity burden) rather than individual conditions, we found a similar risk of severe or critical disease (aOR 1.13, 95% CI 1.09–1.17) (**Fig. 5.**)

A sensitivity analysis was repeated to assess the impact of the country of origin on the severity outcome. After excluding data from South Africa, a total of 38 774 cases were available. Of those, 840 were people living with HIV, and 425 had information on severity status. In this analysis, HIV positive status remained an independent risk factor for severe/critical illness at hospital admission (aOR 2.27, 95% CI 1.73–2.97) after adjusting for age, sex and the presence of underlying conditions (diabetes, neoplasms and chronic cardiac disease).

# Risk factors associated with severe/critical illness among people living with HIV admitted to hospital with COVID-19.

We assessed the associations between potential risk factors and severe/critical illness at hospital admission in this sample of PLHIV. After adjusting for age, sex, and underlying conditions (diabetes and hypertension), we found that PLHIV who were >65 years of age (aOR 1.62, 95% CI 1.41-18.7), male (aOR 1.21, 95% CI 1.23–1.31), with diabetes (aOR 1.10, 95% CI 1.03-1.22) or hypertension (aOR 1.54, 95% CI 1.41-1.68) had an increased risk of severe or critical illness at hospital admission after controlling for the other risk factors. All estimates were significant at p<0.0001 level (see **Fig. 5**., below).

Fig. 5. HIV infection and risk of severe or critical illness of COVID-19 at hospital admission



The upper part of the figure shows HIV infection as a significant independent risk factor for severe or critical presentation of COVID-19, after adjusting for age, sex, burden of underlying conditions (adjusted odds ratio (aOR). The lower part of the figure shows the adjusted odds ratio for each risk factor for severe or critical presentation of COVID-19 among PLHIV, after controlling for the other risk factors.

## HIV infection and risk of in-hospital mortality

HIV infection was independently associated with a higher risk of death (aHR 1.29, 95% CI 1.23–1.35) compared to the HIV-negative population, after adjusting for age, sex, disease severity and underlying conditions (diabetes, chronic pulmonary disease and malignant neoplasms).

A similar risk (aHR 1.30, 95% CI 1.24–1.36) was found after adjusting for age, sex, disease severity at admission and the number of underlying conditions (comorbidity burden). (**Fig. 6**).

The presence of one or two underlying conditions (aHR 1.40, 95% CI 1.37–1.43) and the presence of three or more underlying conditions (aHR 1.50, 95% CI 1.44–1.56) were associated with increased risk of death. All estimates were significant at p<0.0001 level.

We performed a subgroup analysis, stratifying mortality risk by WHO geographic region. After adjusting for age, sex, underlying conditions and clinical presentation at hospital admission (mild/moderate versus severe/critical illness), HIV infection was independently associated with an increased risk for in-hospital mortality in the WHO African Region (aHR 1.29, 95% CI 1.23-1.34) but not in the WHO European Region (aHR 0.59, 95% CI 0.29-1.2) or the WHO Region of the Americas (aHR 0.92, 95% CI 0.37-2.31). For other Regions, modelling for mortality outcomes was not possible due to the limited sample size.

A sensitivity analysis was repeated to assess the impact of the country of origin on the mortality. When excluding data received from South Africa (resulting in a total of 311 HIV positive cases compared with 7474 HIV negative cases with a known outcome), the risk of death in people living with HIV hospitalized with COVID-19 remained elevated, but was no longer statistically significant (aHR 1.16, 95% CI 0.90– 1.51). Adjustment for covariates other than sex and age was not possible due to the limited sample size.



Fig. 6. HIV infection and risk of in-hospital mortality for COVID-19

The upper part of the figure shows HIV infection as a significant independent risk factor for in-hospital mortality of COVID-19, after adjusting for age, sex, disease severity and burden of underlying conditions (adjusted hazard ratios (aHR)). The lower part of the figure shows the adjusted hazard ratio for each risk factor for in-hospital mortality among PLHIV, after controlling for the other risk factors.

# Risk factors associated with in-hospital mortality among people living with HIV admitted to hospital with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

We also assessed the relationship between potential risk factors predicting in-hospital mortality in this sample of PLHIV. Among PLHIV, being >65 years of age (aHR 1.82, 95% CI 1.62–2.04), male (aHR 1.21, 95% CI 1.15–1.28), having diabetes (aHR 1.50, 95% CI 1.39–1.62) and hypertension (aHR 1.26, 95% CI 1.19-1.34) increased the risk of in-hospital death after controlling for the other risk factors. All estimates were statistically significant with p<0.0001. (**Fig. 6**., lower section).



The WHO Global Clinical Platform for COVID-19 is an evolving project, and measures to improve the harmonization of data collection are in place. Not all facilities that submitted data to the WHO platform used the WHO case report form, which may have contributed to some heterogeneity and incompleteness of data. A major limitation of the data submitted to the WHO Platform was missing information on anti-retroviral therapy (ART) that was only available in 40% of the cases, which precluded meaningful analysis of clinical outcomes (disease severity on admission and in-hospital mortality) stratified by ART status.

Some countries contributed data derived from national registries of hospitalized patients, while other countries contributed data from a convenience sample of clinics or sentinel clinics. Thus, lack of representativeness and potential selection bias may limit the generalizability of these findings.

In this analysis, the data are predominantly from South Africa. Although this may limit the generalizability of the results, it is worth noting that this country is the epicenter of the HIV pandemic and has the largest AIDS epidemic globally, accounting for 20% of all people living with HIV worldwide and 20% of new HIV infections.

Not all potentially relevant risk factors, such as body mass index (BMI), were considered in the regression model due to insufficient data reported; and this may have influenced our findings. In addition, findings only refer to in-hospital mortality and do not capture information on post-discharge outcomes, thus potentially underestimating the impact of HIV infection on overall mortality due to COVID-19.

# Conclusions

HIV appears to be a significant independent risk factor for severe or critical illness at hospital admission and in-hospital mortality.

To improve our understanding of the clinical characterization and management impact of patients hospitalized with COVID-19, WHO will continue to expand the collection and analysis of clinical data of hospitalized patients with and without HIV through the WHO Global Clinical Platform for COVID-19 and encourage countries and stakeholders to contribute anonymized data.

As the data contribution continues to expand, the generalizability of findings will increase and inform optimal clinical management in this co-infected vulnerable population. These analyses will be updated regularly to improve our understanding of the clinical characterization and management of people living with HIV that are hospitalized with COVID-19.

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# Annex 1. Contributors to the WHO Global COVID-19 Clinical Platform

As of the 29th of April 2021, the following health care facilities/collaborators have contributed anonymized clinical data to the WHO Global Clinical Platform.

## Global

WHO Collaborating Centre for TB and Lung Diseases, Maugeri Care and Research Institute, Italy Alma Mater Studiorum University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Thessaloniki, Greece ASST Spedali Civili, Brescia, Italy Catholic University Ruzomberok, Slovakia Centre Hospitalier Universitaire, Nantes, France Centro Hospitalar de Vila Nova de Gaia/Espinho, Vila Nova de Gaia. Portugal Centro Hospitalar São João, Porto, Portugal Centro Nacional de Programas Preventivos y Control de Enfermedades, Mexico City, Mexico CHI Créteil, Créteil, France Civico-Benfratelli Hospital, Palermo, Italy Clinical Hospital for Infectious Diseases and Pneumology "Dr. Victor Babes", Timisoara, Romania Clinique Saint Luc, Bouge, Belgium Comisión Honoraria para la Lucha Antituberculosa y Enfermedades Prevalentes, Montevideo, Uruguay Damien Foundation, Conakry, Guinea Damien Foundation, Niamey, Niger Dr. Negri University Hospital of Gran Canaria, Las Palmas, Spain Groupe Hospitalier sud île de France, Melun, France Hôpital Européen de Paris La Roseraie, Aubervilliers, France Hôpital d'Instruction des Armées Percy, Clamary, France Hôpital National Ignace Deen, Conakry, Guinea Hospital Amador Guerrero, Ciudad de Colon, Panama Hospital de Cantoblanco, Madrid, Spain Hospital das Clinicas HCFMUSP, São Paulo, Brazil Hospital de Cruces, Bizkaia, Spain Hospital DIPRECA, Chile Hospital Especializado Octávio Mangabeira, Salvador, Brazil Hospital General Universitario La Paz, Madrid, Spain Hospital Nacional Dose de Mayo, Lima, Peru Hospital Valdecilla, Santander, Spain Hospital Virgen Macarena, Sevilla, Spain Huashan Hospital, Shanghai, China Indira Gandhi Government Medical College, Nagpur, India Instituto de Tisioneumonología Prof. Dr. R. Vaccarezza, Buenos Aires, Argentina Instituto Nacional de Enfermedades Repiratorisa Ismael Cosio Villegas, Mexico City, Mexico

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Biyem-Assi District Hospital, Yaounde, Cameroon Djoungolo District Hospital, Yaounde, Cameroon Efoulan District Hospital, Yaounde, Cameroon Nkolbisson District Hospital, Yaounde, Cameroon Nkolndongo District Hospital, Yaounde, Cameroon Soa District Hospital, Yaounde, Cameroon

#### **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

ALIMA, Democratic Republic of the Congo Cliniques Universitaires de Kinshasa (CUK), Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

#### Ghana

Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Kumasi, Ghana Global Health and Infectious Diseases Research Group, Ghana Kumasi Centre for Collaborative Research in Tropical Medicine, Kumasi, Ghana Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi Ghana

#### Guinea

ALIMA, Guinea CHU Donka, Conakry, Guinea

#### Nigeria

Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University Teaching Hospital, Bauchi, Nigeria Bingham University Teaching Hospital, Jos, Nigeria Federal Medical Centre, Asaba, Nigeria Federal Medical Centre, Yola, Nigeria General Hospital Abakaliki, Abakaliki, Nigeria General Hospital Riyom, Riyom, Nigeria Infectious Disease Centre, Specialist Hospital, Yola, Nigeria Infectious Disease Hospital, Akure, Nigeria Infectious Disease Hospital Amanawa, Amanawa, Nigeria Infectious Disease Hospital, Olodo, Nigeria

Infectious Disease Hospital, Olodo, Nigeria Isolation Centre Amachara, Umuahia, Nigeria Jos University Teaching Hospital, Jos, Nigeria Kapital Klub Isolation and Treatment Centre, Abuja, Nigeria

Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Lagos, Nigeria National Hospital of Abuja, Abuja, Nigeria Niger State Ministry of Health, Minna, Nigeria Obafemi Awolowo University Teaching Hospital, Ile-Ife, Nigeria

Ogunstate Ministry of Health, Abeokuta, Nigeria Plateau State Specialist Hospital, Jos, Nigeria State Specialist Hospital, Damaturu, Nigeria State Specialist Hospital, Osogbo, Nigeria Taraba State Specialist Hospital, Jalingo, Nigeria This Day Dome Isolation and Treatment Centre, Abuja, Nigeria

UN Sari Clinic, Abuja, Nigeria University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Abuja, Nigeria

#### **South Africa**

Steve Biko Academic Hospital, Gauteng Provincial Department of Health, Pretoria, South Africa National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Johannesburg, South Africa

#### Zambia

Levy Mwanawasa University Teaching Hospital, Lusaka, Zambia

#### Zimbabwe

Arundel Hospital, Harare, Zimbabwe Bindura Farm Health Centre, Bindura, Zimbabwe Gweru Infectious Diseases Hospital, Gweru City, Zimbabwe Hauna Hospital, Hauna, Zimbabwe HealthPoint, Harare, Zimbabwe Marondera Provincial Hospital, Marondera, Zimbabwe Mater Dei Hospital, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe Mutare Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mutare, Zimbabwe Parirenyatwa General Hospital, Harare, Zimbabwe St Annes Hospital, Harare, Zimbabwe Thorngrove Hospital, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe United Bulawayo Hospital, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe Victoria Chitepo Provincial Hospital, Mutare,

# Region of the Americas

## Brazil

Zimbabwe

Instituto de Infectologia Emilio Ribas, São Paulo, Brazil

Grupo Hospitalar Conceição, Porto Alegre, Brazil

#### Colombia

Clínica Colsanitas, Bogota, Colombia Dominican Republic Hospital Regional Universitario Jose Maria Cabral y Baez, Santiago, Dominican Republic Hospital Regional Dr. Arturo Grullon, Santiago,

#### **Dominican Republic**

Hospital Metropolitano de Santiago (HOMS), Santiago, Dominican Republic

#### **Mexico**

Hospital Pediátrico de Sinaloa, Culiacán, Mexico

#### **United States of America**

Bronxcare Health System, New York City, USA Henry Ford Hospital, Detroit, USA New York City Health + Hospitals, New York City, USA

## **South-East Asia Region**

#### India

Vardhman Mahavir Medical College and Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, India

## **European Region**

#### **Belgium**

Infectious Diseases Clinic Brugmann Hospital, Brussels, Belgium

#### Germany

University Hospital Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany

#### Hungary

UD Kenezy Gyula University Hospital, Debrecen, Hungary

#### Italy

AOU Ospedali Riuniti, Ancona, Italy Infectious Diseases Unit, Bergamo, Italy San Giuliano Hospital - ASL Napoli 2 Nord, Naples, Italv Clinica Malattie Infettive, Università Politecnica delle Marche, Ancona, Italy SIMIT (Italian Society of Infectious Diseases and Tropical Medicine). Italv AOU Mater Domini, Catanzaro, Italy AOU Policlinico Giaccone, Palermo, Italy AOU Policlinico S. Orsola-Malpighi, Bologna, Italy ASUR Marche Area Vasta 4. Fermo, Italv AULS Toscana Centro, Pistoia, Italy Instituto Giannina Gaslini, Genova, Italy O.C. 'Dell'Angelo', Mestre-Venezia, Italy Ospedali Galliera, Genova, Italy Ospedale Policlinico Consorziale, Italy Ospedale San Bortolo, Vicenza, Italy Santa Maria della Misericordia. Italv Università Vanvitelli. Italv

#### Spain

Hospital Universitario Ramón y Cajal, Madrid, Spain

## **Eastern Mediterranean Region**

#### Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran

#### Jordan

King Abdulla University Hospital, Ar-Ramtha, Jordan Prince Hamza Hospital, Amman, Jordan

#### Pakistan

Indus Hospital Research Center, Karachi, Pakistan

#### Saudi Arabia

King Saud Bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

## Western Pacific Region

#### China

Prince of Wales Hospital, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, China School of Public Health, Capital Medical University, Beijing, China

#### **Republic of Korea**

National Medical Centre, Seoul, Republic of Korea

#### Singapore

National Centre for Infectious Diseases, Singapore National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Singapore

