



PROGRAMMATIC GUIDANCE FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN HUMANITARIAN AND FRAGILE SETTINGS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

RESOURCES



Guidance documents

1. [IASC Interim Guidance on Scaling-up COVID-19 Outbreak in Readiness and Response Operations in Camps and Camp-like Settings](#). This document, jointly developed by IFRC, IOM, UNHCR and WHO, gives general COVID-19 programmatic preparedness and response guidance, and is specific to humanitarian settings.
2. [WHO Clinical management of severe acute respiratory infection \(SARI\) when COVID-19 disease is suspected. Interim guidance. 13 March 2020](#). The guide includes considerations for pregnant women and newborns through the document, and specific guidance on pregnancy, delivery and newborn care in chapters 12 and 13.
3. [WHO Infection Prevention and Control During Health Care When Novel Coronavirus \(nCOV\) Infection is Suspected](#). This guidance document is not specific to sexual and reproductive health services, but provides practical guidance for infection prevention and control at health facilities.
4. [WHO operational guidance on maintaining essential services during an outbreak. March 2020](#). This guidance document outlines steps to achieve universal access to quality care.
5. [WHO Q&A on COVID-19, pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding. 18 March 2020](#). This site provides answers to frequently asked questions on COVID-19, pregnancy, childbirth and breastfeeding, as well as links to related guidance documents.
6. [WHO 2019 Water, sanitation and hygiene in health care facilities](#). This guidance document is not specific to COVID-19, but provides practical recommendations to address WASH in maternity wards.
7. [WHO COVID-19 Risk Communication and Community Engagement Technical Guidance](#). This guidance is designed to support risk communication guidance for health care facilities, healthcare workers and for communicating effectively with the public, engaging with communities, local partners and other stakeholders to help prepare and protect individuals, families and the public's health during early response to COVID-19.
8. [UNFPA Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Preparedness and Response - Interim Technical Brief, March 2020](#). The document contains detailed programmatic guidance and UNFPA operational/support focus. Guidance specifically addresses SRH in general, contraception and related supply, gender equality and gender-based violence considerations and specific considerations for adolescents and young people.
9. [RCOG Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection in Pregnancy. Version 4.1: Published Thursday 26 March 2020](#). This document, written as a reference for clinicians in the UK, provides detailed clinical guidance for the management of pregnant women with COVID-19 infection during pregnancy, delivery and in the immediate post-partum period, particularly in regard to breastfeeding and managing the mother-newborn transmission risk.
10. [RCOG Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Infection and Abortion Care. Version 1: Published Saturday 21 March 2020](#). This document, written as a reference for clinicians in the UK, provides detailed clinical guidance for the management of abortion for women with COVID-19 infection.
11. [UK Faculty of Sexual and Reproductive Health Care Position on Essential SRH Services during COVID-19](#). This document, written as a reference for health services providers in the UK, outlines guidance on continuity of essential sexual and reproductive health services, including strategies for ensuring access to effective contraception.
12. [Jhpiego Initial Assessment of Clients Presenting for Intrapartum Care: Summary of Key Considerations in the Context of COVID-19 March 2020](#). This easy-to-use job aid walks health care workers through initial assessment of clients presenting for intrapartum care in the context of COVID-19 – from normal rapid assessment for complications in pregnancy to assessment for signs and symptoms of COVID-19.

Issue briefs

13. [UNFPA Statement on novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and pregnancy](#). The statement underlines the importance of maintaining access SRH in general and skilled birth attendance specifically, the importance to maintain mother and newborn together and to ensure breastfeeding.
14. [CARE Gender Implications of COVID-19 outbreaks in development and humanitarian settings](#). This document highlights the impact of an epidemic on access to sexual and reproductive health services, as well as implications on women and girls specific to their role in society, as health workers and as care takers at home.

Guidance from past epidemics

15. [WHO Pregnancy and pandemic influenza A \(H1N1\) 2009: Information for programme managers and clinicians](#). July 2010. This document is not specific to COVID, but contains relevant guidance regarding routine sexual and reproductive health services, the mother-newborn dyad, and general maternity infection prevention measures, which are equally applicable to COVID-19.
16. [WHO Reducing excess mortality from common illnesses during an influenza pandemic](#). 2008. This document includes pragmatic guidance regarding sexual and reproductive health services during a pandemic, including what and how to shift to community level services (see page 25 onwards).



Inter-Agency Working Group on
Reproductive Health in Crises

<https://iawg.net>