

# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

## Situation Report – 29

### Timor-Leste

Data as reported by 29 April 2020

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- MoH and relevant partners discussed the responsibilities of different pillars and the key performance indicators to monitor and evaluate their performance followed by updates on funding arrangements, infection control, health workforce, and laboratory testing. WHO provided an update on latest developments and the importance of maintaining other essential health services during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Instituto Nacional Saude (INS) and the Ministry of Health (MoH) in collaboration with UN agencies and INGOs are drawing up a comprehensive and coordinated strategy to build capacity and train health workers and support staff from referral hospitals, community health centres and health posts on the prevention and management aspects of Covid-19. This follows on from extensive trainings already provided by the government and partners over the last couple of months on Covid-19.
- Supported by WHO and health development partners such as Maluk Timor, teams of trainers have visited CHCs and Health Posts in Dili, Aileau and Liquica municipalities to conduct a rapid assessment of their preparedness to investigate and respond to Covid-19, support these facilities to introduce changes to manage Covid-19 cases more effectively and provide training on the infection prevention, case management and environmental cleaning aspects of Covid-19.
- The MoH and INS with support from UN agencies (UNFPA, UNICEF and WHO) have produced guidelines on the safe and effective management of pregnant women in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. The MoH with the support of partners (UNFPA, WHO, DFAT, USAID and UNICEF) have commenced a nation-wide program of capacity building and training for health workers providing care to pregnant women. This has begun with a 3-day workshop in Dili and will gradually include other municipalities over the coming months.
- 75 clinical staff of Vera Cruz isolation facility underwent training on clinical case management of COVID-19. It included skills and scenarios related to administering oxygen, using personal protective equipment, and caring for patients with different severities of COVID-19. The one-day training was commissioned by HNGV and was organised by WHO and delivered by over 10 educators from HNGV, St. John of God and Maluk Timor, with support from the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons. Further one-day training sessions are planned to ensure that all Vera Cruz isolation centre staff will be covered.

#### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

**24 confirmed (0 new)**

**0 deaths**

(As per data released by [Centro Integrado Gestao de Crise](#))

Follow WHO Timor-Leste on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

More information and guidance by WHO regarding the current COVID-19 outbreak can be found [here](#).

#### GLOBAL SITUATION IN NUMBERS Total (new) cases in last 24 hours

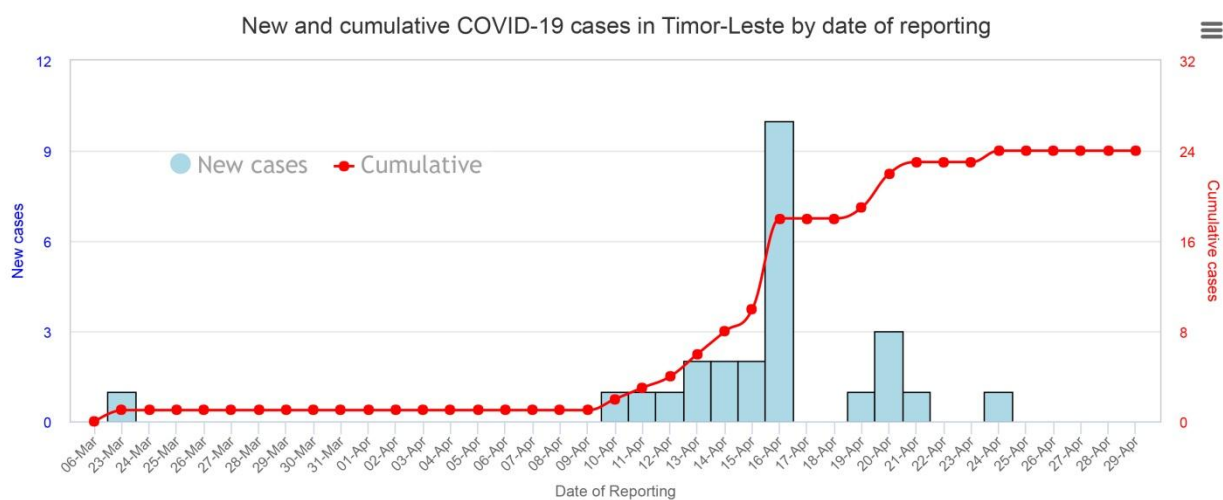
**Globally**

**2 954 222 confirmed (76 026)**

**202 597 deaths (3932)**

#### WHO RISK ASSESSMENT

**Global Level    Very High**



## Global Highlights

All available evidence for COVID-19 suggests that SARS-CoV-2 has a zoonotic source. Many researchers have been able to look at the genomic features of SARS-CoV-2 and have found that evidence does not support that SARS-CoV-2 is a laboratory construct. A constructed virus would show a mix of known elements within genomic sequences – this is not the case.

## WHO TIMOR-LESTE STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

- Interrupt human-to-human transmission including reducing secondary infections among close contacts and health care workers, preventing transmission amplification events;
- Strengthening of surveillance systems and increasing laboratory capacity to detect COVID-19 cases;
- Ensuring adherence to the strictest standards of infection prevention and control (IPC) and increase capacity for IPC;
- Identify, isolate and care for patients early, including providing optimized care for infected patients;
- Communicate critical risk and event information to all communities and counter misinformation;
- Minimize social and economic impact through multisectoral partnerships.

## RECOMMENDATIONS AND ADVICE FOR THE PUBLIC

### **Wash your hands frequently**

Regularly and thoroughly clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or wash them with soap and water.

**Why?** Washing your hands with soap and water or using alcohol-based hand rub kills viruses that may be on your hands.

### **Maintain physical distancing**

Maintain at least 1 metre (3 feet) distance between yourself and others.

**Why?** When someone coughs or sneezes they spray small liquid droplets from their nose or mouth which may contain virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the droplets, including the COVID-19 virus if the person coughing is infected.

### **Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth**

**Why?** Hands touch many surfaces and can pick up viruses. Once contaminated, hands can transfer the virus to your eyes, nose or mouth. From there, the virus can enter your body and make you sick.

### **Practice respiratory hygiene**

Make sure you, and the people around you, follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze. Then dispose of the used tissue safely immediately.

**Why?** Droplets spread virus. By following good respiratory hygiene you protect the people around you from viruses such as cold, flu and COVID-19.

### **If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early**

Stay home if you feel unwell. If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical attention and call in advance. Follow the directions of health authorities.

**Why?** Calling in advance will allow your health care provider to quickly direct you to the right health facility. This will also protect you and help prevent spread of viruses and other infections.

### **Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider**

Stay informed on the latest developments about COVID-19. Follow advice given by your healthcare provider, your national and local public health authority or your employer on how to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

**Why?** National and local authorities will have the most up to date information on whether COVID-19 is spreading in your area. They are best placed to advise on what people in your area should be doing to protect themselves.

More guidance on preventive measures is available [here](#).

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### **COVID-19 Information and media queries:**

- The MoH has established a hotline number – 119 – for COVID-19 on which people can call to get any COVID-19 related information.
- Additionally, [MoH Facebook page](#) provides timely updates on COVID-19 developments in the country.

- WHO Timor-Leste through its [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter handle](#) also disseminates information on preventive measures, questions and answers, myth-busters and latest updates on COVID-19 globally and nationally. For media queries and interviews requests can be sent to [singhsho@who.int](mailto:singhsho@who.int) and [hasane@who.int](mailto:hasane@who.int)
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