Summary

This is an update to the Situation Report published on April 24, 2020, in relation to the outbreak of COVID-19.

To date, there are 10,714 cases in 33 countries/territories (including 24 CARPHA Member States), in the Caribbean Region. The risk of further importation of cases to the rest of the Caribbean remains **Very High**.

The Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Health Security (RCM-HS), is actively working with Heads of Government and regional partners on a common approach to the COVID-19 response.

New in this Report

**Surveillance and Epidemiology in 24 Member States**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers at a Glance*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Globally</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2,858,686 cases (232,337 new)</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Caribbean Region</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>33 countries, areas, or territories (0 new)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10,714 cases (823 new)**</td>
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<tr>
<td>2,088 recovered (430 new)</td>
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<td>496 deaths (37 new)</td>
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<th><strong>Rest of the World</strong></th>
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<td>179 countries, areas, or territories and Other*** (0 new)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2,847,972 cases (231,514 new)</td>
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<tr>
<td>872,955 recovered (125,742 new)</td>
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<tr>
<td>195,799 deaths (14,318 new)</td>
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**Updated with additional data from local country reports**

***Persons on board the Diamond Princess Cruise Ship harboured in Yokohama, Japan

**SITUATION UPDATE**

Up to 33 countries in the Caribbean region have reported the importation of at least one confirmed case of COVID-19. The risk of further importation of cases to the Caribbean Region remains **Very High**. Since the previous report on April 24, 2020, no new countries reported their first confirmed case of COVID-19 within the Caribbean region.

Additional cases, however, were confirmed in 19 countries, bringing the region’s total confirmed cases to 10,714 in 33 countries/territories. This new total represents an 8% increase in the numbers of confirmed cases. Thirty-seven (37) additional deaths were also recorded, bringing the total numbers of deaths to 496.
As of April 27, 2020, the WHO reported 2,858,635 cases of patients with COVID-19. Outside of China, 212 countries, areas or territories have confirmed at least one case among travellers exposed while abroad and/or person-to-person contact. No new countries have reported their first confirmed case of COVID-19 since the last Situation Report on April 24, 2020.

There have been 1,307 cases confirmed from CMS, the highest number reported on April 15, 2020 (Figure 1).

Among the 24 Member States, 50% (12/24) have been classified as having sporadic cases, 50% (12/24) have reported clusters, based on data received by WHO from national authorities by 10:00 CEST, April 23, 2020\(^1\).

For the cases for which data was available, the majority were aged 50 years and over. There was no age provided for most cases (Figure 3).

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Among cases for whom a source of infection was reported, 39% were imported; and 36% appeared to be close contacts (local transmission) of a known imported case (Figure 5).

Among cases for whom sex was reported, 55% were female and 45% were male. (Figure 4).

Since February 10 and as of April 23, 2020, CARPHA has received 2,529 samples from 14 CMS, 314 (13.48%) of which have tested positive since the start of the outbreak, 239 results correspond to new cases.

A summary of COVID-19 surveillance data received from Member States is presented in Figure 6.

To date four Member States reported data for EPI-Week 16.

**Laboratory**

Since February 10 and as of April 23, 2020, CARPHA has received 2,529 samples from 14 CMS, 314 (13.48%) of which have tested positive since the start of the outbreak, 239 results correspond to new cases.

Figure 7 shows the progression of COVID-19 cases which have been confirmed in CMS from February – April 2020.
**IMT-ER Summary**

CARPHA’s IMT-ER in their meeting on April 24, 2020, provided the following updates:

- Applicants from the Call for Experts have been shortlisted for the Emergency Roster.
- CARPHA’s IMT-ER have reviewed and tested their equipment for deployment to support Member States.

**Communication and Information**

On April 21, 2020, Dr. Joy St. John, participated in a webinar discussion focused on trends and impacts on social, economic and security policies. The webinar was hosted by the Florida International University. COVID-19 & the Caribbean is part of the FIU’s series on the current pandemic. The video can be viewed [here](#).

**Logistics**

- **April 23, 2020**: Dr. Gonzalez-Escobar (Head, Laboratory Services and Networks) and Ms. Wallace-Sankarsingh (Biorisk Manager) represented CARPHA as observers to the Regional Security System (RSS) Table Top Exercise “COVID-19 Security Response” to raise the awareness of the Security Chiefs/Heads of Security Agencies in participating countries to some of the current and emerging challenges associated with COVID-19.

- **April 21, 2020**: Dr. Shelley Rodrigo (CR-FELTP Coordinator) and Ms. Wallace-Sankarsingh (Biorisk Manager) participated in a demonstration with IMPACS for an online training platform (CBSI-Connect) which will be used to conduct training in Personal Protective Equipment for regional and national front line security service providers.

CARPHA is expanding its Human Resource skills bank to facilitate, as the need arises, the rapid recruitment and deployment of short-term emergency response consultants to CARPHA and its Member States (see CARPHA – Call for Experts: COVID-19 Flyer).

**Stakeholder Engagement**

CARPHA is working closely with various stakeholders for a coordinated regional response, and as such has engaged with stakeholders in multiple ways, including the following:

- **April 26 and 27, 2020**: Dr. St. John and Dr. Indar attended meetings of the Working Group on the Common Health Policy and protocol mandated by the CARICOM Heads of Government.
In celebration of the 18th Vaccination Week in the Americas, from April 25 – May 2, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) is urging countries to strengthen vaccination against seasonal influenza and measles to prevent respiratory illness and vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks during the COVID-19 pandemic. More information is available here: https://www.paho.org/en/news/24-4-2020-paho-urges-countries-maintain-vaccination-during-covid-19-pandemic)

The Organization also underlines the importance of sustained malaria efforts, outlining key guidelines on how to stay the course of malaria elimination and support the response against COVID-19. More information is available here: https://www.paho.org/en/news/24-4-2020-paho-underlines-importance-sustained-malaria-efforts-and-protection-health-workers)

**NEW INFORMATION UPDATES**

**News from the Field**

CARPHA’s Team continues to adapt to demands of the pandemic response.

- Within the Caribbean Region, there are currently no active cases in Anguilla, St. Barts and St. Lucia as all cases have recovered.

**CARPHA PRODUCTS**

Links to Public Education Resources https://www.carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus

Media links https://www.carpha.org/More/Media/Articles

Videos https://www.youtube.com/user/CARPHACampus

**REFERENCES**

Sources: (1) WHO Situation Dashboard Accessed at 10:00am 27 April 2020. Available from: https://who.sprinklr.com/
https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?useExisting=1&layers=0b356e20b30490e0b3049b4c7bb9554e7c&layerid=1