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Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries

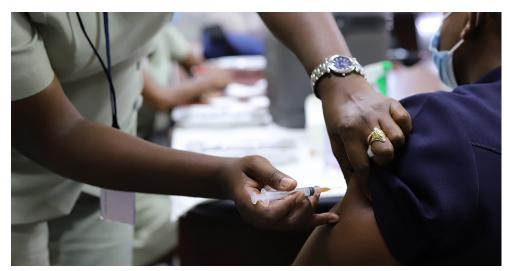


COVID-19 Situation Update - 117

01 February 2021

This situation update is on the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) reported cases and deaths, Globally, Regionally, for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories, and the United Kingdom Overseas Territories.

Barbados and several Eastern Caribbean Countries received indicative allocation of **COVID-19 vaccine from the COVAX Facility**



Region of the Americas 45,785,210 cases 1,057,894 deaths in 56 countries, areas, or territories Global 102,766,114 2,226,531 deaths in 236 countries, areas, or territories

Bridgetown, 30 January 2021 (PAHO): On 30 January 2021 Barbados, and several Eastern Caribbean Countries who signed agreements with the COVAX Facility were informed of the indicative allocation of COVID-19 vaccines. In a written letter to each ministers of health the COVAX facility advised that vaccines will be delivered effective mid to late February with 357, 600 doses of the AstraZeneca AZD1222 vaccine to Barbados, Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The indicative distribution is based on current communication of estimated availability from manufacturers.

The COVAX Facility has managed to secure significant doses of vaccines from various manufacturers. The allocation was determined by the World Health Organization (WHO) panel of experts and GAVI taking a big step towards equal access to COVID-19 vaccines. The Facility has informed the countries its vaccine allocation for the 1st and 2nd quarter of 2021. These are the first of the assigned doses to satisfy COVAX's agreement with the countries.

As communicated by PAHO and the COVAX facility from previous communication, the COVAX Facility has managed to secure significant doses of vaccines from various manufacturers. In addition, these are authorised or very close to being authorised by WHO Emergency Use Listing (EUL). Because EUL has yet to be granted by WHO in respect of this vaccine, the Facility have for now only provided an indicative number of doses, covering the next two quarters. The main objective of this allocation is for countries to as quickly as possible begin vaccinating their priority populations.

The members states are advised to take necessary actions in the roll-out and COVID-19 vaccination plans to ensure timely procurement and delivery of the vaccines. Furthermore, the timing of the delivery of doses is subject to PAHO establishing supply agreements with the manufacturers. Read more...

COVID-19 highlights:

COUNTRY	COVID-19 HIGHLIGHT						
Anguilla	For the month of January 2021, Anguilla reported 4 COVID-19 cases.						
Antigua and Barbuda	For the month of January 2021, Antigua and Barbuda reported 74 COVID-19 cases. A 39 year-old man reportedly died from COVID-19 on January 29 th .						
Barbados	For the month of January 2021, Barbados reported 1,163 COVID-19 cases. On Sunday 31 January, Barbados recorded 2 COVID-19 deaths. A 55 year-old man and a 64 year-old woman. To date 14 persons have died from COVID-19. From 3-17 February a lockdown or "National Pause" will be enforced in Barbados. Mask wearing will also be mandatory from February 3 rd .						
British Virgin Islands	For the month of January 2021, the British Virgin Islands reported 48 COVID-19 cases						
Dominica	For the month of January 2021, Dominica reported 18 COVID-19 cases						
Grenada	For the month of January 2021, Grenada reported 9 COVID-19 cases						
Montserrat	For the month of January 2021, Montserrat reported no COVID-19 cases						
Saint Kitts and Nevis	For the month of January 2021, Saint Kitts and Nevis reported 5 COVID-19 cases						
Saint Lucia	For the month of January 2021, Saint Lucia reported 1,057 COVID-19 cases. On January 31st, 2 males died from COVID-19, a 72 year-old and 21 year-old. The Ministry of Health has established a COVID-19 Vaccine Committee which is planning and coordinating the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine introduction and deployment. The COVID-19 vaccine deployment will have a three-phased approach, targeting priority groups first, based on the level of exposure and risk to COVID-19.						
Saint Vincent & the Grenadines	For the month of January 2021, 830 COVID-19 cases were reported.						

Classification of transmission scenarios

WHO recommends using the following categories to describe transmission patterns at national and sub-national levels (wherever possible) to guide decisions for preparedness, readiness and response activities.

CATEGORY NAME	DEFINITION					
No cases	Countries/territories/areas with no cases					
Sporadic cases	Countries/territories/areas with one or more cases, imported or locally detected					
Cluster of cases	Countries/territories/areas experiencing cases, clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures					
Community transmission	Countries/territories/areas experiencing larger outbreaks of local transmission defined through an assessment of factors including, but not limited to: Large numbers of cases not linkable to transmission chains Large numbers of cases from sentinel lab surveillance Multiple unrelated clusters in several areas of the country/territory/area					

Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories and United Kingdom Overseas Territories

	CONFIRMED	ACTIVE		# OF	TRANSMISSION	STATUS OF	TRAVEL	MASKS	STATE OF EMERGENCY	COVID-19 WEB ADDRESS
COUNTRY	CASES	CASES	DEATHS	TESTS	TYPE	SCHOOLS	RESTRICTIONS	MANDATORY	(CURFEW)	AND HOTLINE
ANGUILLA	17	2	0	7,698	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	No	No	https://beatcovid19.ai/ (264) 476-7627
ANTIGUA & BARBUDA	234	50	7	9,244	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	-	Yes	https://ab.gov.ag/detail_page. php?page=42 (268) 462-6843
BARBADOS	1,558	375	14	103,468	Community transmission	Online	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://gisbarbados.gov.bb/covid-19/ (246) 536-4500
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	141	17	1	18,245	Clusters of cases	Both face to face & online	Yes	Yes	No	https://bvi.gov.vg/covid-19 (284) 852-7650
DOMINICA	120	10	0	9,910	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	Yes	No	http://dominica.gov.dm/corona (767) 448-2151
FRENCH GUIANA	16,083	-	76	-	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	
GRENADA	148	5	1	19,799	Sporadic cases	Varied stages of reopening	Lifted	Yes	Yes	https://covid19.gov.gd/ (473) 458-4787 / (473) 538-4787
GUADELOUPE	9,156	-	157		Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.guadeloupe.ars.sante. fr/
MARTINIQUE	6,370	-	44	122,755	Community transmission	-	Yes	-	-	https://www.martinique.ars.sante.fr/
MONTSERRAT	13	0	1	814	No cases	Face to face sessions	Yes	No	No	https://www.gov.ms/covid-19/
SAINT BARTHELEMY	379	-	0	-	Sporadic cases	-	-	-	-	
ST KITTS & NEVIS	39	-	0	7,923	Sporadic cases	Open	Yes	Yes	Yes	https://www.covid19.gov.kn/
SAINT LUCIA	1,411	769	15	22,768	Clusters of cases	Online	Yes	Specific settings only	Yes	https://www.covid19response.lc/
SAINT MARTIN	1,289	-	12	-	Community transmission	-	-	-	-	https://www.stmartinweek.fr/
ST VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	951	698	2	28,996	Clusters of cases	Online	No	Specific settings only	No	http://health.gov.vc/health/index. php/c (784) 534-4325
TOTAL	37,905	1,926	330	350,813						

Table 1: COVID-19 status in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, French Territories and United Kingdom Overseas Territories. 'Sporadic cases' indicates countries/territories/areas with one or more cases, imported or locally detected. 'Clusters of cases' indicates countries/territories/areas experiencing cases clustered in time, geographic location and/or by common exposures.

Data in red new. Disclaimer: Data is updated by 5:00PM each day and there could be delays in reporting. Any discrepancies from national data figures will be edited on the next issue.

PAHO's Response



Since the re-opening of the borders and following the recent holiday season there has been a significant increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in many countries of the Eastern Caribbean. Even though many of the countries are still experiencing clusters of cases, there are some that have progressed to community transmission.

On 26 January 2021, the PAHO/WHO Office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries hosted a webinar on **Managing COVID-19 Outbreak in the Eastern Caribbean Countries**. It provided a forum for dialogue on the challenges being experienced in countries and discussion on possible context-based policy and protocol options to manage the outbreak, save lives and protect livelihood.

Approximately 80 persons attended the webinar which brought together a panelist of Chief Medical Officers from Barbados, Grenada and Saint Lucia, as well as PAHO experts from Washington DC.

PAHO/WHO Representative for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries, Dr Yitades Gebre opened the session by presenting on "COVID-19 transmission in the Americas with specific focus on the Eastern Caribbean", this was followed by a session on COVID-19 transmission patterns, testing and genetic sequencing, led by Dr. Jairo Andres Mendez Rico, PAHO Advisor, Viral Diseases, Infectious Hazard Management.

In the session on "Breaking the Chain of Transmission", Dr. Andrea Vicari, PAHO Advisor, Epidemic-prone Diseases Epidemiology, Infectious Hazard Management, spoke on the Investigation of clusters, testing modalities, strategies, contact tracing in the detection of COVID-19 for effective public health action. Dr Kenneth George, Chief Medical Officer, shared Barbados's experience with contact tracing, quarantine, testing protocols and strategies used for public health and travel measures in COVID-19 outbreak response.

In the final session on "Strengthening Public health and social measures", Dr. Roberta Andraghetti, PAHO Advisor, International Health Regulations (IHR), Country Health Emergency Preparedness and IHR, presented on public health measures and testing in the context of internation travel. Dr. Shawn Charles Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health and Social Security, Grenada shared the country's experience in using public health and social measures in the control of COVID-19.

Saint Lucia's experiences and challenges of investigations of social transmission pathways and adjusting public health and social measures was presented by Dr. Sharon Belmar-George Chief Medical Officer Ministry of Health and Wellness.

Link to previous Situation Updates





www.paho.org/coronavirus



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