

# Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Situation Report



## Weekly Report No. 227 - Saudi Arabia

11 -17 February, 2021

	Global		Eastern Mediterranean Region	
	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths	COVID-19 Cases	COVID-19 Deaths
<b>Current</b>	109,217,366	2,413,912	6,074,987	140,510
<b>Last Week</b>	106,555,206	2,333,446	5,898,784	138,069
<b>In 7 days</b>	2,662,160	80,466	176,203	2,441

### Saudi Arabia

	Confirmed Cases	Recovered Cases	Deaths	Active Cases	Critical Cases	PCR Tests
<b>Total</b>	<b>373,702</b>	<b>364,646</b>	<b>6,445</b>	<b>2,611</b>	<b>480</b>	<b>13,157,534</b>
<b>In 7 days</b>	<b>2,346</b>	<b>2,278</b>	<b>29</b>	-	-	<b>342,124</b>
10/2/2021	364	274	5	2,658	437	50,339
11/2/2021	353	305	4	2,702	447	52,454
12/2/2021	337	356	4	2,679	456	46,841
13/2/2021	322	282	4	2,714	459	41,465
14/2/2021	314	341	5	2,682	472	49,060
15/2/2021	322	371	3	2,630	480	52,357
16/2/2021	334	349	4	2,611	480	49,608

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Regions with the highest new infections over the past 7 days: Riyadh (1,146), Eastern (485), Makkah (291), Al Qassim (70), Madinah (67), Al Bahah (57), Asir (44) and Northern Borders (43).
- Saudi Arabia has decided to extend COVID-19 restrictions for another 20 days starting Sunday evening 14/2/2021 on gatherings, events, entertainment activities, dining services, cinemas, indoor entertainment and game centres, public places, gyms and sports centres.
- 47,335 violations of the mitigation measures against COVID-19 in one week from 7-13 February, 2021.
- Expatriates can register themselves on Tawakkalna App even if the validity period of their residency permits has expired.
- Ministry of Health announces resumption of the coronavirus vaccination program to start on Thursday 18th of February. Vaccination has begun at Umm Al-Qura University Vaccination Center in Al-Abdiyah, Makkah.
- Dr. Asiri: The number registered to take the vaccine reached 2 million, the vaccination will be completed for the eligible population by the end of 2021, the return of students to school cannot take place before we reach herd immunity by vaccinating 70 % of citizens and residents.
- Temporary closure of 9 more mosques bringing the total within 9 days to 79 mosques, 62 of which were reopened after completion of sterilization.
- SCDC publishes guidelines for quarantine and medical isolation, and the mechanism for dealing with people coming from abroad, see link.
- WHO publishes Interim recommendations for use of the COVID-19 vaccine developed by Oxford University and AstraZeneca, see link.
- WHO updated clinical case management guideline for COVID-19.
- WHO provides Interim recommendations for use of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, see link.
- WHO launches Global COVID-19 Clinical Platform Case Report Form (CRF) for Post COVID condition, see link
- WHO publishes 10 steps to community readiness: What countries should do to prepare communities for a COVID-19 vaccine, treatment or new test, see link.
- Draft landscape and tracker of COVID-19 candidate vaccines, see link.

### IMPORTANT LINKS

- **MoH COVID-19 updates:** <https://twitter.com/saudimoh>
- **WHO's COVID-19 global situation reports:** <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/situation-reports>
- **WHO's COVID-19 dashboard:** <https://covid19.who.int/>
- **MoH COVID-19 dashboard:** <https://covid19.my.gov.sa/ar/Pages/default.aspx>
- **SCDC's guideline for quarantine, medical isolation and the mechanism for dealing with people coming from abroad:** [https://covid19.cdc.gov.sa/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/AR\\_guideline\\_for\\_quarantine\\_and\\_isolation.pdf](https://covid19.cdc.gov.sa/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/AR_guideline_for_quarantine_and_isolation.pdf)
- **Interim recommendations for use of the AstraZeneca/Oxford University vaccine:** [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE\\_recommendation-AZD1222-2021.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-vaccines-SAGE_recommendation-AZD1222-2021.1)
- **WHO's COVID-19 Clinical management living guidance:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-clinical-2021-1>
- **Interim recommendations for use of the Moderna vaccine:** <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/interim-recommendations-for-use-of-the-moderna-mrna-1273-vaccine-against-covid-19>
- **WHO's post COVID clinical platform case report form (CRF):** [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/global-covid-19-clinical-platform-case-report-form-crf-for-post-covid-conditions-\(post-covid-19-crf-\)](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/global-covid-19-clinical-platform-case-report-form-crf-for-post-covid-conditions-(post-covid-19-crf-))
- **WHO's 10 steps to community readiness:** [https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/who-2019-nCoV-Community\\_Readiness-2021.1](https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/who-2019-nCoV-Community_Readiness-2021.1)
- **Draft landscape and tracker of COVID-19 candidate vaccines:** <https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/draft-landscape-of-covid-19-candidate-vaccines>

## IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS

### WHO Grants AstraZeneca/Oxford University Vaccine Emergency Use Listing (EUL):

The vaccine was reviewed by WHO's Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE), which recommended the use of the vaccine for all age groups 18 and above on the 15th of February.

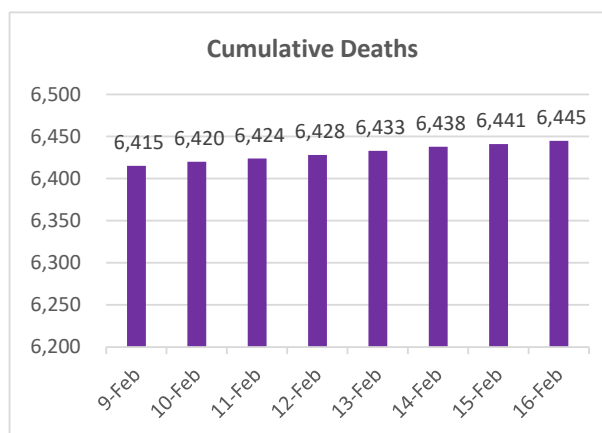
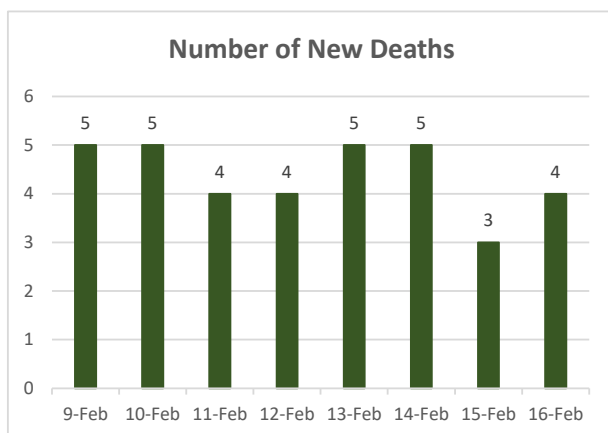
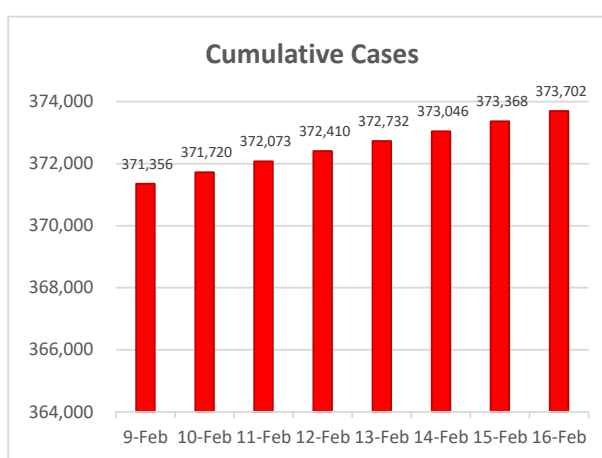
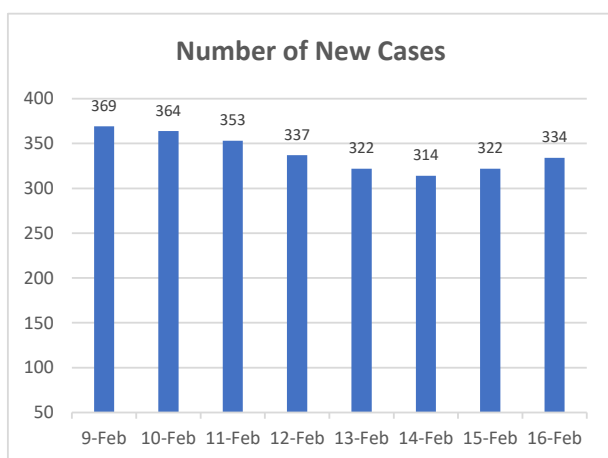
The vaccine is a non-replicating vaccine that has easy storage requirements. The vaccine is given in two intramuscular doses, the vaccine has been found to have 63.09% efficacy that tends to be higher when the interval between the doses was longer, usually between 4 and 12 weeks. There are currently no evidence indicating a need for additional (booster) doses. There are no data available on the interchangeability of doses of this vaccine with other COVID-19 vaccines. There should be a minimum interval of 14 days between administration of this vaccine and any other vaccines against other conditions.

No severe allergic reactions or anaphylaxis caused by the vaccine have been recorded in the context of clinical trials, however, as for all vaccines, it should be given under supervision, with the appropriate medical treatment available in case of allergic reactions.

Anyone with fever above 38.5 °C should postpone vaccination. The vaccine produces an immune response in older persons similar to other age groups and is safe for use in the older age group, it has also been safe when tested in persons with a number of underlying medical conditions.

The vaccine has not been tested on pregnant women to assess its safety during pregnancy, however, WHO does not recommend taking a pregnancy test prior to vaccination and does not recommend delaying pregnancy because of vaccination. It is not known whether the vaccine is secreted in human milk, however, since it is not a replicating vaccine, it is unlikely to pose a risk to the breastfeeding child. WHO does not recommend discontinuing breastfeeding after vaccination.

The vaccine can be given to those who already had COVID-19, however should be delayed for 6 months after they have recovered. If antibody treatment was given, the vaccine should be deferred for at least 90 days after the treatment was given. Preliminary analysis shows that the vaccine is less effective against the variant discovered in South Africa, however this needs further study.



## IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- The National Focal Person for COVID-19 is Dr Abdullah Asiri, Assistant Deputy for Preventive Health, MoH, email: AbdullahM.Asiri@moh.gov.sa