



World Health
Organization



WHO O2CoV2 – Oxygen requirements and approaches to respiratory support in patients with COVID-19 in LMICs

An observational cohort study

**International Study Steering Committee
Terms of Reference**



INTRODUCTION

In February 2020, the World Health Organization Research and Development (R&D) Blueprint in collaboration with the GloPID-R (the Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness) held the first Global Research and Innovation meeting which was followed by the publication of a roadmap of priorities for research on SARS-CoV-2 in eight areas, one of which was Clinical Characterization and Management. Following this meeting, all experts interested in continuing to provide input and actively engage in clinical research were invited to form an ongoing working group, that was named WHO COVID-19 Clinical Characterization and Management (CCM) Working Group.

The WHO COVID-19 CCM Working Group works in concert with the WHO secretariat, other experts and other COVID-19 research working groups with the purpose of facilitating coordination and collaboration of research and innovation in the field of clinical care during the response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In August 2020, following the 2nd global R&D Blueprint meeting, a need to further characterize respiratory support approaches for patients with COVID-19 was identified. A smaller working group, part of the CCM working group, was formed – the WHO Respiratory Support Research Working Group. This group has focused on development of two clinical research protocols – an observational cohort study, WHO O2CoV2, and a multi-dimensional randomized control platform trial of different respiratory support measures (in development).

WHO O2CoV2, *Oxygen requirements and approaches to respiratory support in patients with COVID-19 in LMICs*, is an observational cohort study that will help the global community understand the current practices around oxygen use in patients with COVID-19 in low- and middle-income countries. This study will also provide baseline data for a subsequent platform trial of advanced respiratory support interventions intended to improve outcomes and prevent the need for mechanical ventilation for patients with COVID-19.

OBJECTIVES of WHO O2CoV2 International Study Steering Committee:

1. To govern conduct of study in accordance with master protocol;
2. To decide on any changes to master protocol;
3. To select sites of implementation and ensure adequate global representation according to master protocol.

COMPOSITION of WHO O2CoV2 International Study Steering Committee:

WHO O2CoV2 ISSC aims to ensure representation among its members. Group members bring expertise from across global regions and income levels, and diversity across a variety of clinical and research disciplinary approaches.

All members of the group declare there are no conflicts of interest in their conducting the objectives listed above as independent experts, and that they have no personal or professional involvement in the study. That is, none of the members will be implementers of the study, or formally affiliated with implementers of the study.

The chair(s) has (have) the following responsibilities:

- Moderate group activities and discussions to ensure all diverse perspectives are represented.
- To liaise with the WHO focal point and other technical areas as needed.
- Ensure ongoing review and (re-) prioritization of study queries based on emerging needs.

WHO secretariat focal points: Pryanka Relan/Janet Diaz covidrespstudy@who.int

WHO focal points will respond to requests for evidence and expert guidance to inform study operations via the WHO secretariat; conduct tasks and develop materials related to delivery or facilitation of the study; share tools, protocols, and (where appropriate) methodological expertise and research outcomes; contribute to building networks of clinical experts as well as other relevant disciplines in an effort to ensure global representation when requested.



Member	Country	Affiliation
Gasim Amrahli	Azerbaijan	Administration of Regional Medical Divisions
Leticia Kawano-Dourado	Brazil	HCor Research Institute - Hospital do Coracao
Richard Kojan	Democratic Republic of Congo	ALIMA
Maria Mendes	Guinea Bissau	Office of the High Commissioner for COVID-19
DJ Christopher	India	Christian Medical College
Wangari Waweru-Siika (Co-Chair)	Kenya	Aga Khan University Nairobi
Diptesh Aryal	Nepal	Nepal Intensive Care Research Foundation
Madiha Hashmi	Pakistan	Ziauddin University
Pauline Convozar	Philippines	Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital
Yaseen Arabi (Co-Chair)	Saudi Arabia	ICU King Abdulaziz Medical City, Ministry of National Guard Health Affairs
Sara Dominguez Rodriguez	Spain	Centro de investigación Hospital Universitario 12 de Octubre
Mohammed Derow	Somalia	Ministry of Health and Human Service, Federal Government of Somalia
Arthur Kwizera	Uganda	Makerere University
Elisabeth Riviello	United States of America	Harvard Medical School, Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
WHO Secretariat members		
Janet Diaz	HQ	Team lead, clinical management
Pryanka Relan	HQ	Technical officer, clinical management
Srinivas Murthy	Canada	Clinician, WHO CCM co-chair
John Marshall	Canada	Clinician, WHO CCM co-chair
Kobus Preller	HQ	Case management expert
Marta Lado	HQ	Case management expert
Silvia Bertagnolio	HQ	Medical officer, clinical management
Bridget Griffith	HQ	Data manager
Alejandra Velez	HQ	Biomedical and oxygen scale up focal point
Guillaume Queyras	HQ	Operations, Support and Logistics team lead
Ludovic Reveiz	PAHO	Team lead, clinical management
John Appiah	AFRO	Team lead, clinical management
Chiori Kodama	EMRO	Team lead, clinical management
Dina Pfeifer	EURO	Team lead, clinical management
Pushpa Wijesinghe	SEARO	Team lead, clinical management
Howard Sobel	WPRO	Team lead, clinical management

DISCLAIMER

The opinions represented by the participants are not necessarily the opinions or recommendations of WHO.