

Situations like the coronavirus pandemic quickly lead to misinformation, rumors and fake news, as we saw after the earthquakes in Nepal. We can all play a role in beating the virus by making sure that we are sharing validated information and using trusted sources to inform our decision-making.

The **Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC)** gathers rumours, concerns and questions from communities across Nepal to eliminate information gaps between the government, media, NGOs and citizens. By providing the public with facts, the CCC ensures a better understanding of needs regarding the coronavirus and debunks rumours before they can do more harm.



Nepalis returning from India

Photo: Dinesh Khabar



COVID-19 Crisis Management Centre (CCMC) Clusters



Medical Operations

- ▶ Swab collection and test
- ▶ Training for health workers (25 doctors and 29 nurses trained)
- ▶ Treatment Management: Hospital, bed, ambulance



Security Operations

- ▶ Security in the borders and its regular monitoring
- ▶ Ensuring lockdown practice
- ▶ Rescuing people in a challenging and difficult situation



Logistic Operations

- ▶ Purchase necessary medication and equipment
- ▶ Facilitate the import arrangements



Media and Information Technology Operations

- ▶ Starting a call center for tracing, tracking and identifying the risk areas
- ▶ Data collection from different sources and identifying the risk areas
- ▶ Developing a COVID-19 App with tracing and tracking facilities
- ▶ Regular press release
- ▶ Keeping the district and local level units of security bodies well informed through regular patrolling and miking

Rumors - Facts



Instead of providing incentives to the security personnel working hard, the government is cutting off their salaries. Is it true?

The police headquarter has directed to cut some portion of the salary of the police officers working up to the officer level for the Coronavirus Prevention, Control, and Treatment fund. The salary will be deducted according to different levels of the officers. The minimum being three days salary of A.S.I to maximum being seven days salary of I.G.P, and different salary deduction for different levels in between. However, the government has already decided to provide 75% of the salary as an incentive for all the government officials who are working for Coronavirus prevention and control.



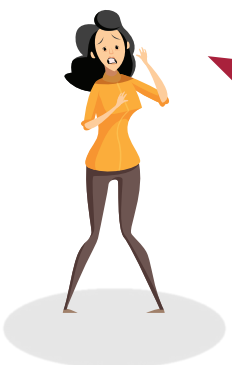
The government has directed the major hospitals to only treat patients suspected with COVID-19. We hear that patients with other serious illnesses are not getting the treatment.

The hospitals other than the one identified as Level 1 COVID hospitals (there are 13 such hospitals over the country) should provide regular services. However, health campaigns or camps should not be organized and no elective surgery other than the ones that threaten life and limb should be conducted.



Are quarantine, home quarantine, and isolation the same?

The government has made home quarantine mandatory for the returnees who have come back from abroad but do not show any symptoms for COVID-19. The local, provincial and central government provide their quarantine facilities for those who cannot stay at home quarantine or whose houses are far. If the people staying in quarantine start showing symptoms such as cough or fever they are then taken to isolation arranged in the hospital and are tested. If their COVID-19 test is negative, they are sent back to home quarantine, but if it is positive then they will be treated in isolation itself.



The government provides a pass to the vehicles of essential service providers. But, how do we go to the District Administration Office to get a pass during the lockdown?

As an alternative to going to the District Administration Office (DAO), the Ministry of Home Affairs has started an online platform to apply for e-pass for the essential service providers and emergency work such as transportation of food, sick people, and dead bodies. To get the e-pass, you need to go to <https://epass.moha.gov.np/> and apply for the pass. The District Administration Office will only provide the pass after reviewing the application.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[World Health Organization](#) [Ministry of Health and Population](#)

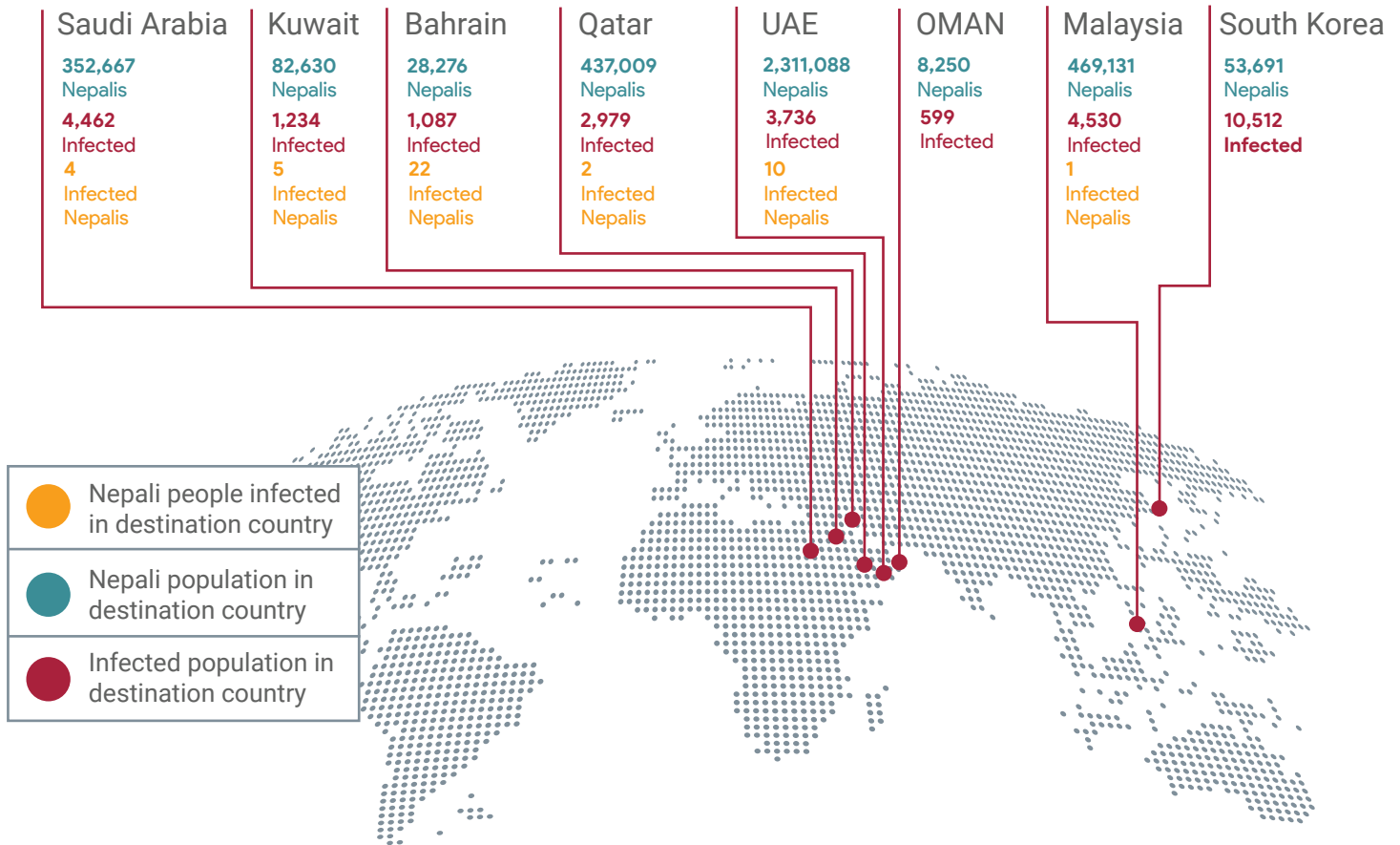
[Do's and don't's](#) [Johns Hopkins Coronavirus Resource Center](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Update, Ministry of Health and Population, Government of Nepal](#)

[Nepal Labour Force Survey Report](#) [COVID-19 Situation](#)



Migrant workers in major destination countries



ShramikSanjal

Awareness towards COVID-19 infection prevention by the Dubai Police

The most prominent medium for virus transmission is our hand. Even if the virus is in our hand, but if we prevent it from going to our mouth, the chances of transmission is low.

We all use our one hand more compared to the other one. To prevent transmission, which hand to use for what purpose?

Frequently used hand (mostly right)



To touch your hand, mouth and nose



To eat



To write

Scarcely used hand (mostly left)



To open doors



To hold money



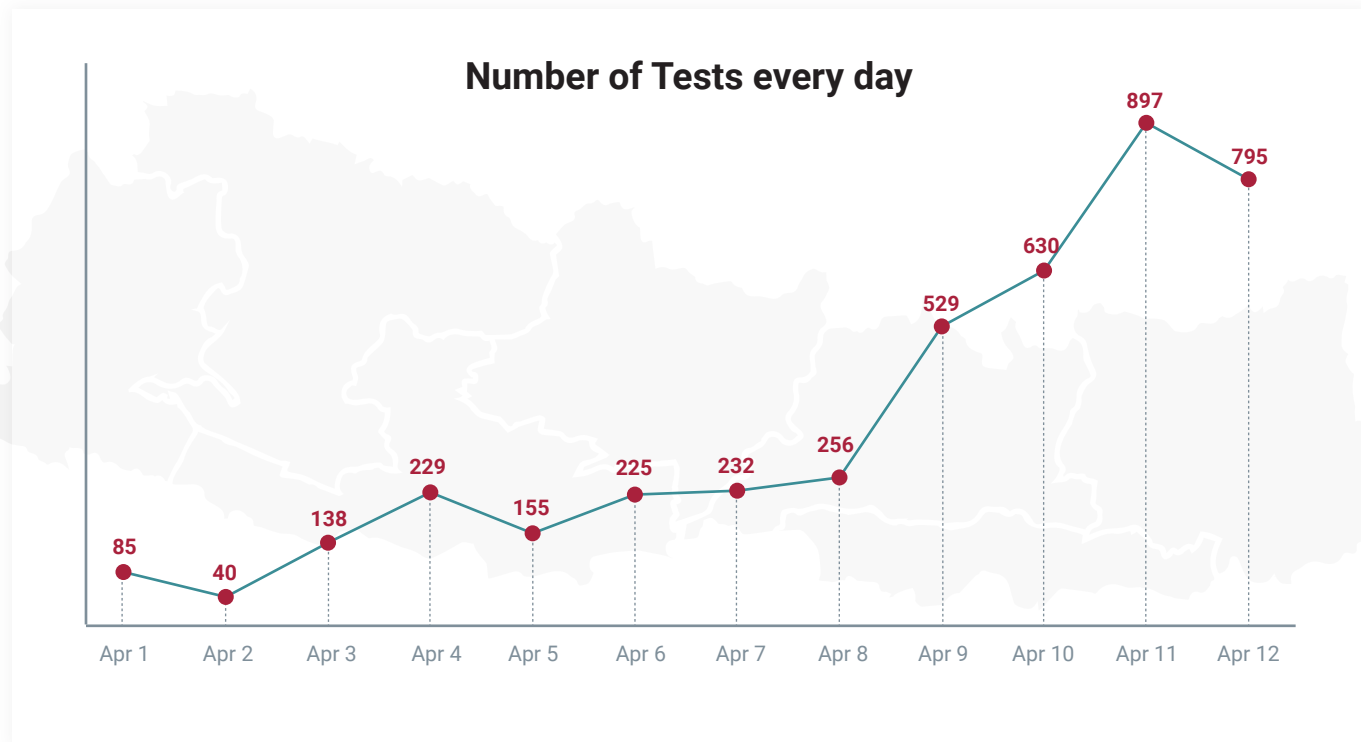
To touch anything else

If we touch anything containing the virus from the hands we use less, the chances of touching the mouth, hand, and eyes with it decreases.

Wash your hands properly with soap for 20 to 30 seconds after touching anything. If it is not possible to use a sanitizer.



Improvement in COVID-19 testing by the Nepali Government



Nepal has been able to accelerate the pace of COVID-19 tests from the second week of April. Now, 11 testing sites complete almost eight fold tests per day compared to earlier this month. These are laboratory tests, and the number does not include from Rapid Testing.

Source: HEOC, MoHP, SitRep #51-63

Bagmati Province Disaster Management Fund



119 total local units

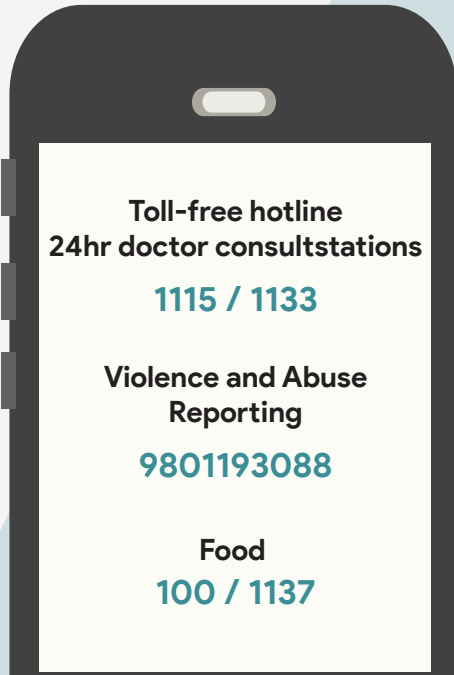
123.2M NRS



- 3 Metropolitan Cities
6M NRS
2M NRS per local unit
- 1 Sub-Metropolitan City
1.5M NRS
- 41 Municipality
49.2M NRS
1.2M NRS per local unit
- 74 Rural Municipality
74M NRS
1M NRS per local unit

What if I contract **coronavirus**?

COVID-19 HOTLINE



Where can I get a coronavirus test?

The National Public Health Laboratory (NPHL) Teku, Kathmandu, Bharatpur, Dhulikhel, Bhairahawa as well as all provincial hospitals are conducting tests. As the person suspected to have the virus needs to be isolated, the sample is collected by hospitals and sent to the NPHL.

Is the sick person allowed to go to the lab to get tested? How much does it cost?

The sick person is not allowed to go to the lab directly. The local hospitals will refer to the NPHL to test if suspected. There is no cost for the test.

How long does it take to see the results of the test?

The test report is provided between 24-48 hours after the sample is submitted to the lab. If the report is positive, the concerned hospital or the doctor is informed.

The sources of rumors, information and issues presented here are collected from a variety of organizations and individuals including the Ministry of Health and Population, the World Health Organization (WHO), social media and the CivActs team based on their conversations with over 2000 people in April 2020. The issues highlighted are chosen based on prevalence, relevance and potential impact. The information presented here is correct at the time of issue.

Coronavirus CivActs Campaign is brought to you by
Accountability Lab Nepal.

