With that in mind, The Accountability Lab Pakistan (ALP), with the financial support from the European Union and technical support from The Asia Foundation (TAF) Pakistan, has officially launched the Coronavirus CivActs Campaign (CCC). This campaign debunks rumours, conducts regular fact-checking, synthesizes data, and convenes virtual forums to produce informative bulletins each week. These bulletins include important government decisions, visual materials, community feedback, debunked rumours with verified information, valid concerns, and other questions from the ground around health and other issues. The goal is to support enhanced awareness among the most vulnerable groups in Pakistan (including ethnic minorities, religious minorities, returning migrants, trafficking victims, prisoners, women, internally displaced persons, transgender persons, persons with disabilities, victims of torture, and other marginalized communities), with a focus on the marginalized communities of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Sindh. These bulletins are translated into Urdu and Sindhi, with audio transcriptions in Pashto. They are shared with stakeholders, local government leaders, media, legal aid centers, community radios, learning centers, CSOs, and humanitarian networks via online and offline means. They are also disseminated through a web-page, shared widely on social media, and are aired on a wide network of radio stations in local languages.

Situations like the coronavirus pandemic can quickly become a catalyst for social conflict due to misinformation, rumours, and fake news, as observed in Pakistan during recent national catastrophes caused by dengue fever, floods, and earthquakes. The situation is no different with COVID-19 as stories emerge on how fake news is being used to manipulate response efforts, spread rumours and misinformation leading to behaviours that are undermining community cohesion, and causing citizens to be unaware of the role they can play in the pandemic response.

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**Current Situation of COVID-19 in Pakistan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Provinces</th>
<th>Active Cases</th>
<th>Confirmed Cases</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>Recoveries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Punjab</td>
<td>28,871</td>
<td>225,953</td>
<td>6,485</td>
<td>190,597</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islamabad</td>
<td>10,779</td>
<td>59,401</td>
<td>572</td>
<td>48,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KPK</td>
<td>9,707</td>
<td>89,255</td>
<td>2,382</td>
<td>77,166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sindh</td>
<td>5,029</td>
<td>265,917</td>
<td>4,504</td>
<td>256,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AJK</td>
<td>1,607</td>
<td>12,984</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>11,019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balochistan</td>
<td>1,607</td>
<td>19,610</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>19,122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GB</td>
<td>279</td>
<td>5,045</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>4,867</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Common myths around Covid-19 that have been circulating at the local, national, and international level have come into focus in the past few months of the pandemic.

There is a fake link circulating on social media by the link name: https://covid19relief.get-funds.online/. Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) Pakistan recently issued an advisory in which it warned that the number of cases of cyber-attacks due to Covid-19 has greatly increased. Links like these are being forwarded to people by hackers asking people to reveal their private information under the excuse of giving them a Covid relief fund. When you click on a link like this, you will be asked to type in your personal information, and after entering your information, you will be asked to share this link in different groups. If you come across such fake links please be careful and instead of sharing it with others, lodge a complaint to the Cyber Crime Wing of the Federal Investigation Agency (CCW-FIA), by calling at Helpline No. 9911 and report such cybercrimes.

The latest analysis of symptom data by researchers from King’s shows no major differences in COVID-19 symptom type, severity, or duration of the disease caused by the new B.1.1.7 coronavirus variant. The research study confirms that the new variant is more transmissible. Dr Claire Steves from the School of Life Course Sciences revealed: “The Kent variant B.1.1.7 does not appear to alter symptoms, severity or duration of COVID-19 when we take account of the changing seasons and age of people affected. It’s important to emphasize the range of symptoms both the new and the old variant can cause, such as headaches and sore throat, in addition to the classic triad of cough, fever, and loss of smell.”
NCOC has announced that registration for senior citizens between 50-59 will start from 30th March. For registration, you can SMS your CNIC number to 1166 from any mobile number or visit nims.nadra.gov.pk. The vaccine center and date will be communicated through SMS. Following is the basic process for administration of the vaccine to eligible citizens:

1. **ELIGIBILITY** - Senior Citizens/ Health Care Workers can check eligibility by sending CNIC (13 digits without space) to 1166 or visit https://nims.nadra.gov.pk
2. **CONFIRMATION SMS** - Adult Vaccination Center (AVC) and PIN Code will be intimated
3. **APPOINTMENT** - When vaccine becomes available at center, 2nd SMS with date of appointment will be communicated
4. **VISIT ADULT VACCINATION CENTER (AVC)** - Visit AVC on date of appointment along with Original CNIC and PIN Code
5. **VERIFICATION COUNTER** - Health Staff will check schedule in NIMS, and verify CNIC & PIN Code
6. **VACCINATION COUNTER** - You will be vaccinated upon your turn
7. **CONFIRMATION** - Vaccination Staff will confirm vaccine entry in NIMS
8. **MONITORING** - After vaccine administration, you will be required to stay for 30 minutes for monitoring.

(Source: NCOC)

If you think you or someone you know is infected with COVID-19, you can call the following government helplines by province:

- **FEDERAL**: 1166
- **KHYBER PAKHTUNKHW**A: 1700
- **PUNJAB**: 0800 99 000
- **SINDH**: 021-99203443 | 021-99204405
- **BALOCHISTAN**: 081-9241133-22 | 0334-9241133

(Source: Ministry of National Health Services Regulations and Coordination (NHSRC))
Under section 144, the deputy commissioner of Peshawar has made wearing face masks/covers while visiting public spaces (indoor and outdoor) mandatory for all in District Peshawar. Anyone that violates this rule shall be proceeded against legally. This order is effective from 29th March and shall remain enforced for a period of one month unless modified.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa health and finance minister Taimur Khan Jhagra has urged citizens to once again practice precautionary measures in light of a third wave of the pandemic. In a series of tweets, he said: "Covid fatigue is natural, but now is the time to get the third wave under control. Overall Covid test positivity in KP was 11.2pc yesterday, higher than it has ever been since the first wave." The minister added that positivity rates were high across Peshawar and Swat in particular, and rising in Haripur and Abbottabad. "Peshawar and Swat are showing 7-day average positivity rates of over 20%. It's time for a collective effort again." Most importantly, we need your help to preserve hospital capacity, and leave room for those who need critical care," he added.

source: Dawn News

If you have COVID-19 symptoms contact your doctor or the coronavirus helpline at

1166
Lahore Commissioner retired Capt Muhammad Usman on March 27 warned that those found without a mask at a public place will be sent behind bars, as it has been decided in principle to ensure implementation of standard operating procedures (SOPs) to curb Covid-19 spread. The order will be effective from Sunday March 28. “We are passing through peak time of the third wave of the coronavirus that is spreading very fast in Lahore in particular and other parts of Punjab in general. Since many Covid-19 positive patients are being shifted to hospitals [in Lahore] on a daily basis, we have decided to ensure strict preventive measure to avert further spread of the virus,” Mr Usman explained. “Therefore, we have decided to launch a crackdown from March 28 against all those not wearing masks, besides flouting other SOPs. Simply, we have been left with no option but to arrest all those found without masks on the city roads, markets, hospitals, parks, shops, malls etc,” he added.

Source: Dawn News
In view of the sharply increasing positivity rate, NCOC has announced the following regulations that will be applied in cities/districts with positivity greater than 8% on a three-day rolling average:

1. There will be a complete ban on holding wedding functions — both indoor and outdoor — starting April 5. However, provinces will be free to implement restrictions early on as per the situation on the ground.
2. All kinds of gatherings (indoor/outdoor) will be banned with immediate effect. This will include all social, cultural, political, sports, and other events.

NCOC will provide updated hotspot maps to provinces for enforcement of expanded lockdowns, with effect from March 29, 2021.

NCOC has now started to issue vaccination immunization certificates. If your vaccination process has been completed you can get your COVID Immunization Certificate from https://nims.nadra.gov.pk or from NADRA Mega Centers. Please ensure vaccination staff enters details in #NIMS when getting a vaccine. Check your vaccination status by sending CNIC to 1166. (NCOC)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Test Center</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Islamabad    | National Institute of Health  
Park Road, Chak Shahzad, Islamabad                        |
| Karachi      | Agha Khan University Hospital,  
Stadium Road, Karachi, Sindh                                           |
| Hyderabad    | Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences (LUMHS),  
Liberty Market Roundabout, Liaquat University Hospital, Hyderabad |
| Khairpur     | Gambat Institute of Medical Sciences,  
Gambat, Khairpur, Sindh                                                   |
| Peshawar     | Hayatabad Medical Complex  
Phase-4 Phase 4 Hayatabad, Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.               |
| Mardan       | Chughtai Lab  
Mardan point, near Allied Bank, Shamsi Road, Mardan, KP                |
| Haripur      | Excel Labs,  
TMA Plaza Shop No. 6, Near Girls Degree College Circular Road  
Haripur, KP                                                               |
| Lahore       | Shaukat Khanum Memorial Hospital,  
7A Block R-3 M.A. Johar Town, Lahore, Punjab                              |
| Multan       | Nishter Hospital  
Nishter Road, Justice Hamid Colony, Multan                                 |
| Rawalpindi   | Armed Forces Institute of Pathology,  
Range Road, CMH Complex, Rawalpindi, Punjab                               |
| Quetta       | Fatima Jinnah Hospital  
Bahadurabad, Wahdat Colony, Quetta                                        |
| Muzaffarabad | Abbas Institute of Medical Sciences (AIMS),  
Ambore, Muzaffarabad, Azad Kashmir                                        |
| Gilgit       | District Headquarters Hospital,  
Hospital Road, Gilgit, GB                                                  |

For more cities visit the [COVID-19 Health Advisory Platform](#)