# COVID-19: EU27+ Response and Actions

## Last Update: 13 January 2021, 17:00

### About

This table provides you with the latest updates on national and European developments that affect the medical technology industry. The developments cover more than 30 Member States from the EU and EEA. The document also provides you with links to relevant government websites allowing you to quickly jump to the latest national measures and COVID-19 statistics.

### Disclaimer

MedTech Europe continues to monitor the unfolding COVID-19 situation and national responses to it. This is a non-comprehensive list of measures and reactions. The information here below is accurate to the best of our knowledge at the time of publishing this table, but we do not accept any responsibility for any losses, direct or otherwise, accrued by relying on this information, as well as for any non-compliance with national regulations, including decrees or ordinances. Readers are encouraged to check with experts on each specific field to verify, analyze or clarify any information before taking any action.

### How to use

With this document you have the opportunity to “collapse” all the different sections by clicking on the little purple arrows just before the titles. This is done in order to improve readability. You also have the chance to jump directly to a specific country by using the table of content just below (Ctrl + Click).

### Additional MedTech Europe’s Key Resources on COVID-19 Recovery

* MedTech Europe’s [COVID-19 Information hub](https://www.medtecheurope.org/covid-19-information-hub/), including all relevant information on activities of the medical technology manufacturers, the European Union and the Member States in addressing the Coronavirus pandemic. MedTech Europe will keep updating this section as the situation continues to develop.
* MedTech Europe’s [E-Library](https://extranet.medtecheurope.org/Recovery%20Plan%20NA%20Repository/Forms/AllItems.aspx), where all input on the industry’s effort towards recovery is centralised. This platform will collect all recovery plans from Europe and national leads, giving you access to these plans as they are developed and updated.

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### 

### Recent Approval and Supply Updates (Week 1-2 January 2021):

* **12 January:** EMA receives application for conditional marketing authorisation of COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca – [EMA](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/ema-receives-application-conditional-marketing-authorisation-covid-19-vaccine-astrazeneca)
* **12 January:** Swissmedic grants approval for the Covid-19 vaccine from Moderna – [Swissmedic](https://www.swissmedic.ch/swissmedic/de/home/news/coronavirus-covid-19/zulassung-covid-19-impfstoff-moderna.html)
* **12 January:** Commission denies existence of COVID vaccine side deals – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/coronavirus/news/commission-denies-existence-of-covid-vaccine-side-deals/)
* **8 January:** Extra dose from vials of Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine – [EMA](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/extra-dose-vials-comirnaty-covid-19-vaccine)
* **8 January:** Moderna vaccine becomes third COVID-19 vaccine approved by UK regulator – [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/moderna-vaccine-becomes-third-covid-19-vaccine-approved-by-uk-regulator#:~:text=The%20vaccine%20has%20been%20approved,safety%2C%20quality%20and%20effectiveness%20standards.&text=The%20COVID%2D19%20vaccine%20developed,products%20Regulatory%20Agency%20(%20MHRA%20).)
* **8 January:** Individual COVID vaccine deals cannot undermine EU joint orders, Portugal says – [REUTERS](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-vaccine-portugal/individual-covid-vaccine-deals-cannot-undermine-eu-joint-orders-portugal-says-idUSKBN29D14H)
* **6 January:** EMA recommends COVID-19 Vaccine Moderna for authorisation in the EU – [EMA](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/news/ema-recommends-covid-19-vaccine-moderna-authorisation-eu)
* **5 January:** EMA published a paediatric investigation plan for the COVID-19 vaccine ChAdOx1-SARS-CoV-2 developed by AstraZeneca, in collaboration with the University of Oxford – [EMA](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/overview/public-health-threats/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/treatments-vaccines-covid-19)

### Storage Requirements of Vaccines:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Vaccine | Storage Requirements |
| National Institutes of Health logo   * Approved vaccine | **Shipping & Long-term Storage:** For shipping and longer-term storage, Moderna expects that the vaccine will be maintained at -20°C (-4°F), for up to 6 months.  **Refrigeration Storage:** After thawing, to facilitate storage at points of administration, Moderna expects that vaccine will remain stable at standard refrigerated conditions of 2° to 8°C (36° to 46°F) for up to 30 days within the 6-month shelf life.  **Room Temperature for Vaccination:** Once the vaccine is removed from the refrigerator for administration, it can be kept at room temperature conditions for up to 12 hours. – ([Link](https://investors.modernatx.com/news-releases/news-release-details/moderna-announces-longer-shelf-life-its-covid-19-vaccine)) |
| * Pfizer logoBioNTech logoApproved vaccine | **Shipping:** specially designed, temperature-controlled thermal shippers, utilizing dry ice to maintain recommended storage temperature conditions of -70°C±10°C for up to 10 days unopened.  **Three options for storage** (once shipping container arrives to point of use)   1. Ultra-low-temperature freezers, which are commercially available and can extend shelf life for up to six months. 2. The Pfizer thermal shippers, in which doses will arrive that can be used as temporary storage units by refilling with dry ice to maintain the recommended storage conditions (-70°C ±10°C) every five days for up to 30 days of storage. 3. Refrigeration units that are commonly available in hospitals. The vaccine can be stored for five days at refrigerated 2-8°C conditions. – ([Link](https://www.pfizer.com/news/press-release/press-release-detail/pfizer-and-biontech-achieve-first-authorization-world)) |
| * AstraZeneca logoUniversity of Oxford logoCombined Phases 2 & 3 * Emergency use in Britain | The vaccine can be stored, transported, and handled at normal refrigerated conditions (2° to 8°C / 36° to 46°F) for at least six months. – ([Link](https://www.astrazeneca.com/media-centre/press-releases/2020/azd1222hlr.html)) |

### A picture containing text Description automatically generatedCOVID-19 vaccination doses administered per 100 people

**Source:** [Our World in Data](https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations) (last updated: 13 January 2021)

### European Union

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Institution | [OFFICIAL EU COVID-19 WEBSITE WITH ALL INFO (INCLUDING EU MEASURES)](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response_en) |
| European Commission | * [European Commission’s Coronavirus Vaccination Strategy](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/public-health/coronavirus-vaccines-strategy_en) * [European Health Union: Stronger crisis preparedness and response for Europe](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_2041) (11 November 2020) * [Communication on extra measures with regards to COVID-19](https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/communication-additional-covid-19-response-measures_en) (28 October 2020) * [Recommendations for a common EU testing approach for COVID-19](https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/preparedness_response/docs/common_testingapproach_covid-19_en.pdf) (17 September 2020) * [Guidance document on short term health preparedness for COVID-19 outbreaks](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/communication_-_short-term_eu_health_preparedness.pdf?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=95d918f3f8-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_07_15_10_35&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-95d918f3f8-189653625) (15 July 2020) * [Recovery Plan for Europe](https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/health/coronavirus-response/recovery-plan-europe_en) * [EU4Health](https://ec.europa.eu/health/funding/eu4health_en) |
| European Parliament | * [European Parliament reaches political agreement with Council Presidency on extra budget EU4Health](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20201106IPR91014/compromise-on-long-term-eu-budget-ep-obtains-EU16-billion-more-for-key-programmes) (10 November 2020) * [Motion for a Resolution on the shortages of medicines (this includes PPE)](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20200910IPR86823/covid-19-eu-must-step-up-efforts-to-tackle-medicine-shortages#:~:text=Parliament%20calls%20for%20the%20EU,to%2023%20and%2010%20abstentions.) (17 September 2020) * [Motion for a Resolution on EU action to combat COVID-19](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/B-9-2020-0148_EN.html) (14 April 2020) |
| EMA | * [COVID-19 vaccines: key facts](https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/human-regulatory/overview/public-health-threats/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/treatments-vaccines/covid-19-vaccines-key-facts) |
| EDCD | * [Overview of COVID-19 vaccination strategies and vaccine deployment plans in the EU/EEA and the UK](https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Overview-of-EU_EEA-UK-vaccination-deployment-plans.pdf) * [COVID-19 Situation Dashboard](https://qap.ecdc.europa.eu/public/extensions/COVID-19/COVID-19.html#global-overview-tab) |

### Austria

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official Response and Actions (in DE and ENG)](https://www.sozialministerium.at/Informationen-zum-Coronavirus/Neuartiges-Coronavirus-(2019-nCov).html) * Website with overview of testing protocols for travellers – [Austria.org](https://www.austria.org/coronavirus) | Lockdown until 24 January 2021  ([Link](https://www.austria.info/en/service-and-facts/coronavirus-information)) | * **Start date:** 27December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.59 doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy**: [Austria’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.sozialministerium.at/dam/jcr:6b100141-81b1-4950-acd5-e43088e6e6f7/EN_COVID-19%20vaccination%20strategy.pdf) * **Doses Acquired:** 16 million *through the EU* [(Link)](https://www.sozialministerium.at/dam/jcr:6b100141-81b1-4950-acd5-e43088e6e6f7/EN_COVID-19%20vaccination%20strategy.pdf) AstraZeneca (6 million), SANOFI (1.5), J&J (2.5); Pfizer/BioNTech (3.5), CureVac (3) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### 2021

###### January

* **13 January:** Countries should be reimbursed for costs for tests and vaccination centers – [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/mindestens-131000-geimpfte-wiener-bis-ende-maerz)
* **12 January:** At least 131,000 vaccinated Viennese by the end of March – [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/mindestens-131000-geimpfte-wiener-bis-ende-maerz)

##### 2020

###### December

* **14 December:** Mass tests without masses –[Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/massentests-oesterreich-101.html)
* **7 December:** Austria relaxes strict coronavirus lockdown, urges mass testing – [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/austria-relaxes-strict-coronavirus-lockdown-urges-mass-testing/a-55848430)
* **7 December:** Austria begins mass coronavirus testing in lead up to Christmas – [EN](https://www.euronews.com/2020/12/07/austria-begins-mass-coronavirus-testing-in-lead-up-to-christmas)

###### November

* **25 November**: A massive screening campaign is due to start on December 5 and 6 in Austria – [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/fr/europe/20201125-covid-autriche-campagne-d%C3%A9pistage-massive-efficacit%C3%A9)
* **16 November**: Hospitals are on the border of triage situations - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/krankenhaeuser-stehen-der-grenze-zu-triagen)
* **16 November:** Austrian government wants to start mass testing - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/lockdown-bringt-massentests-und-neuerlich-verwirrung-um-verordnung)

###### October

* **28 October**: Vienna and Upper Austria postpone non-urgent operations - [Kurier](https://kurier.at/chronik/wien/corona-wien-wird-nicht-dringend-notwendige-operationen-verschieben/401079102)
* **28 October**: Pharmacies no longer allowed to offer antigen tests - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/apotheke-darf-keine-antigen-tests-mehr-anbieten)
* **28 October**: Criticism from the Austrian Medical Association on postponing non-essential surgeries - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/kritik-verschiebung-von-operationen-alarm-beim-aerztenachwuchs)
* **21 October**: SPÖ leader wants antigen tests for nursing home visitors – [Die Presse](https://www.diepresse.com/5885471/spo-chefin-will-antigen-tests-fur-pflegeheimbesucher)
* **20 October**: Corona test program for tourism is being extended – [Die Presse](https://www.diepresse.com/5885026/corona-testprogramm-fur-tourismus-geht-in-die-verlangerung)
* **6 October**: Study finds that lockdown halved hospital admissions which had severe effects – [Wiener Zeitung](https://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/politik/oesterreich/2077766-Lockdown-halbierte-Spitalsaufnahmen.html)
* **5 October**: Experts speak out against mass testing due to creation of a false sense of security - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/falsches-sicherheitsgefuehl-durch-testen-ohne-anlass)
* **5 October**: FPÖ boss sees mask obligation fit only in retirement and health care facilities – [Die Presse](https://www.diepresse.com/5877306/hofer-fur-maskenpflicht-nur-in-alten-und-gesundheitsstatten)

###### September

* **18 September**: Doctors criticize Austrian test strategy for too many unreflective screenings - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/aerzte-kritisieren-zu-viele-und-unreflektierte-tests)
* **11 September**: Experts see improvements possible for Austrian testing strategy - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/index.php/gesundheitspolitik/wie-screenings-mit-bis-zu-100000-tests-moeglich-waeren)
* **5 September**: Directors can extend mask requirement at work – [Wiener Zeitung](https://www.wienerzeitung.at/themen/sars-cov-2/2074021-Direktoren-koennen-Maskenpflicht-ausweiten.html)
* **4 September**: Uncertainty about adequate supply of flu vaccine - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/unsicherheit-bei-ausreichender-versorgung-mit-grippe-impfstoff)

###### August

* **26 August**: Masks compulsory in Upper Austria – [Wiener Zeitung](https://www.wienerzeitung.at/themen/sars-cov-2/2072801-Ab-Freitag-gilt-in-OOe-Bundesregelung-fuer-Maskenpflicht.html)
* **25 August**: Experts find that CE Mark for PCR tests are insufficient as seal of approval - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/wissenschaft/ce-kennzeichen-bei-pcr-tests-unzureichendes-guetesiegel)
* **4 August**: New guidelines for contact persons include mandatory testing – [Wiener Zeitung](https://www.wienerzeitung.at/themen/sars-cov-2/2070461-Kuerzere-Quarantaene-dafuer-auch-nach-Indoor-Sport-mit-Infizierten.html)

###### July

* **23 July**: Doctors advice cardiovascular patients to do medical checks before a second wave - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesellschaft/aerzte-raten-herz-kreislauf-patienten-jetzt-zu-kontrolle)
* **23 July**: Mask requirement also when visiting nursing homes and hospitals - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/maskenpflicht-auch-bei-pflegeheim-und-krankenhausbesuch)
* **22 July**: Mask requirement in supermarkets in Austria – [the Local](https://www.thelocal.at/20200721/austria-re-introduces-mandatory-mask-use-in-supermarkets?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=ef98f4c298-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_07_23_05_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-ef98f4c298-190517313)
* **7 July**: Mask requirement reintroduced in Upper Austria – [Die Presse](https://www.diepresse.com/5836264/oberosterreich-fuhrt-maskenpflicht-wieder-ein?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=047aa44901-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_07_08_05_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-047aa44901-190517313)

###### June

* **29 June**: Researchers push for nationwide antibody study - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/wissenschaft/forscher-machen-vorstoss-fuer-bundesweite-antikoerperstudie)
* **22 June**: Vienna region processed the surgery backlog already – [Wiener Zeitung](https://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/chronik/wien/2065194-OP-Rueckstau-in-Wiener-Spitaelern-abgearbeitet.html)
* **15 June**: Mask requirement severely restricted from now on – [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/maskenpflicht-ab-sofort-stark-eingeschraenkt)
* **10 June**: Austrian antibody test ready in summer – [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/wissenschaft/oesterreichischer-antikoerpertest-im-sommer-einsatzbereit)
* **8 June**: Testing of hospital staff resumed after criticism - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/wiederaufnahme-von-corona-tests-fuer-akh-personal-gefordert)

###### May

* **29 May**: Mask obligation reduced from the 15th of June – [Wiener Zeitung](https://www.wienerzeitung.at/nachrichten/politik/oesterreich/2062391-Die-Maske-faellt.html)
* **18 May**: Medical association advises government to take precautions for second wave regarding PPE - [Medinlive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/aerztekammer-chef-kann-sich-keinen-zweiten-lockdown-vorstellen)
* **15 May**: A more comprehensive testing strategy gets green light from national council - [MedinLive](https://www.medinlive.at/index.php/wissenschaft/medunis-forschen-validen-antikoerpertests)

### Belgium

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official COVID-19 Website](https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/) * Overview of Belgium testing protocols for travellers – [Belgian Government](https://diplomatie.belgium.be/nl) * [Testing Protocols](https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/testing/) | Authorities have extended domestic COVID-19 restrictions until at least 1 March 2021 ([Link](https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/)) | * **Start date:** 28 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.07 doses per 100 people (7 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Belgium’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/143671/belgium-announces-coronavirus-vaccination-strategy-wouter-beke-interministerial-conference-public-health-pfizer-biontech-residential-care-elderly-underlying-conditions/) * **Doses Acquired:** 22.4 million ([Link](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/143628/belgium-set-to-receive-total-of-22-4-million-covid-19-vaccine-doses-moderna-astrazeneca-johnsonjohnson-pfizer-biontech-curevac-sanofi-gsk-fahmp/)) AstraZeneca (7.5 million), J&J (5), Pfizer/BioNTech (5), CureVac (2.9), Moderna (2) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Expats disproportionally hit by Belgium’s Covid-19 testing policy, data shows – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/149281/expats-disproportionally-hit-by-belgiums-covid-19-testing-policy-brussels-ixelles-etterbeek-passenger-locator-forms/)
* **12 January:** New tool shows the coronavirus strains circulating in Belgium – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/149146/new-tool-shows-the-coronavirus-strains-circulating-in-belgium/)
* **11 January:** Belgium promises ‘vaccination barometer’ to keep track of vaccine rollout – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/149030/belgium-promises-vaccination-barometer-to-keep-track-of-vaccine-rollout-strategy-wilmes-de-croo-taskforce-measures-pierre-van-damme-dirk-ramaekers-gems-motivation-third-wave/)
* **11 January:** First Moderna vaccines arrive in Belgium today – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/149151/first-moderna-vaccines-arrived-in-belgium-pfizer-biontech-ema-eu/)
* **10 January:** Belgium discusses monitoring system for travellers with new coronavirus strain – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/148958/belgium-discusses-monitoring-system-for-travellers-with-new-coronavirus-straintesting-task-force-frank-vandenbroucke-pcr-test/)
* **7 January:** Belgian government under fire over slow pace of coronavirus vaccinations – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/belgium-government-criticism-coronavirus-vaccine-campaign-frank-vandenbroucke/)
* **5 January:** Belgium starts large-scale coronavirus vaccination campaign – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/148163/belgium-starts-large-scale-coronavirus-vaccination-campaign-pfizer-biontech-official-vaccine-rollout-health-minister-frank-vandenbroucke-european-medicines-agency-ema-moderna-commission/)
* **5 January:** Vaccinated people will not get any privileges in Belgium – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/148207/vaccinated-people-will-not-get-specific-privileges-in-belgium-steven-van-gucht-covid-19-coronavirus-measures-travel-mass-events-certificate-civic-participation-project-sciensano/)
* **4 January:** Belgian or not: all legal residents can get Covid-19 vaccination – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/148091/belgian-or-not-all-legal-residents-can-get-covid-19-vaccination-nationality-european-citizens-priority-groups-hospital-healthcare-wouter-beke-herd-immunity/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **31 December:** Belgium tightens COVID-19 controls with tests for all travelers – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/coronavirus/news/belgium-tightens-covid-19-controls-with-tests-for-all-travelers/)
* **24 December:** Coronavirus vaccination in Belgium: What you need to know – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/what-you-need-to-know-about-belgiums-vaccination-strategy/)
* **15 December:** ‘If necessary’ Belgium will take new measures on Friday – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/145507/if-necessary-belgium-will-take-new-measures-on-friday-health-frank-vandenbroucke-coronavirus-infections-consultative-committee-prime-minister-de-croo-christmas-new-year/)
* **3 December:** Belgium releases coronavirus vaccination plans – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/belgium-releases-coronavirus-vaccination-plans/)
* **2 December:** Belgium will start vaccinating population from 5 January – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/143548/belgium-to-start-vaccinating-population-on-5-january-prime-minister-alexander-de-croo-covid-19-coronavirus-eu-strategy-frank-vandenbroucke-pfizer-biontech/)
* **2 December:** Belgium set to receive total of 22.4 million Covid-19 vaccine doses – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/143628/belgium-set-to-receive-total-of-22-4-million-covid-19-vaccine-doses-moderna-astrazeneca-johnsonjohnson-pfizer-biontech-curevac-sanofi-gsk-fahmp/)
* **1 December**: Belgium won’t get Covid-19 vaccines before mid-January – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/143357/belgium-wont-get-covid-19-vaccines-before-mid-january-walloon-health-minister-christie-morreale-interministerial-public-conference-biotechnology-moderna/)

###### November

* **24 November:** Belgian PM confirms arrival of first coronavirus vaccines before year-end – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/business/142208/belgian-pm-confirms-arrival-of-first-coronavirus-vaccines-before-year-end-alexander-de-croo-late-december-2020-cargo-pharmaceutical-medicines-brussels-airport/)
* **23 November**: Belgium will again be testing asymptomatic high-risk contacts via PCR, starting on day 7 after the high-risk contact – [info-coronavirus.be](https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/news/testing-23-nov/)
* **20 November:** COVID-19 caused at least 5,000 cancer cases to go undiagnosed in Belgium – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/141595/covid-19-caused-at-least-5000-cancer-cases-to-go-undiagnosed-in-belgium-treatment-prognosis-skin-bladder-kidney-head-neck-prostate-lung-pancreatic-oesophageal-breast-foundation/)
* **12 November**: Experts deem weekly mass testing in Belgium not impossible – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/140436/testing-every-belgian-every-week-is-not-impossible-coronavirus-mass-group-test-strategy/)
* **11 November**: Brussels to test all people again, instead of only symptomatic individuals – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/140322/brussels-health-inspectorate-wants-to-test-people-without-covid-19-symptoms-again-task-force-inge-neven-steven-van-gucht-save-lives-schaerbeek-anderlecht/)

###### October

* **29 October**: Belgium to send patients to Germany – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/138267/european-solidarity-belgium-will-send-covid-19-patients-to-germany-frank-vandenbroucke-health-coronavirus-north-rhine-westphalia-rhineland-palatinate-marc-noppen-uz-brussel/)
* **29 October**: Brussels orders 100,000 rapid COVID-19 tests – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/138097/brussels-orders-100000-rapid-covid-19-tests-alain-maron-capital-region-pcr-coronavirus-health/)
* **29 October**: Belgian hospitals skip to last phase of COVID-19 plan as ICUs fill up – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/138220/belgian-hospitals-told-to-skip-to-last-phase-of-covid-19-plan-as-icus-fill-up-surge-capacities-icu-beds-last-phase-2b-uz-brussel-marc-noppens-worst-case-scenario-emergency-coronavirus-plan/)
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* **22 October**: Belgian hospitals told to postpone non-urgent care – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/137133/belgian-hospitals-told-to-postpone-non-urgent-care-phase-2a-1b-erika-vlieghe-surgeries-intensive-care/)
* **21 October**: Belgium’s new testing strategy focused on symptomatic individuals criticised by experts – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/136798/covid-19-new-testing-changes-cause-anger-and-confusion/)
* **21 October**: An overview of Belgium’s new testing strategy – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/136755/explaining-belgiums-new-covid-19-testing-strategy-high-risk-contact-quarantine-isolation-red-travel-zone-no-symptoms/)
* **21 October**: Flanders will purchase rapid coronavirus tests – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/136771/flanders-will-purchase-rapid-coronavirus-tests/)
* **12 October**: Elective surgeries postponed again - [Standaard](https://www.standaard.be/cnt/dmf20201011_97622938)
* **6 October**: Hospital chief warns lack of intensive care bed are disrupting surgeries in Brussels – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/134369/brussels-ruined-hospital-intensive-care-elisabeth-de-waele-uz-brussel-de-afspraak/)
* **4 October**: Hospital capacity for coronavirus patients in Brussels saturated – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/134094/hospital-capacity-for-coronavirus-patients-in-brussels-saturated/)
* **1 October**: New Belgian government wants to increase testing capacity and appoint corona minister - [Nieuwsblad](https://www.nieuwsblad.be/cnt/dmf20200930_95809486)

###### September

* **14 September**: Belgium’s daily testing capacity reaches over 30,000 – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/131268/coronavirus-belgiums-daily-testing-capacity-reaches-over-30000-de-backer/)
* **7 September**: Brussels testing centres open up to everyone – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/129799/beyond-territorial-reasoning-brussels-testing-centres-open-to-everyone/)

###### August

* **31 August**: Testing to be possible at Brussels Airport – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/129324/travellers-can-soon-get-tested-for-covid-19-at-brussels-airport/)
* **24 August**: Belgium begins testing nursing home staff preventatively – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/128240/coronavirus-belgium-will-begin-testing-nursing-home-staff-preventatively/)
* **21 August**: Face masks mandatory in Brussels until at least mid-September – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/127809/face-masks-mandatory-in-brussels-until-at-least-mid-september/)
* **12 August**: Belgium to boost testing capacity for upcoming flu season – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/126319/belgium-will-pump-e50-million-into-doubling-covid-19-testing-capacity/)
* **12 August**: Brussels ready to make masks mandatory in its region – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/126272/brussels-set-to-impose-face-masks-in-public-as-region-slides-towards-alarm-threshold/)
* **11 August**: Brussels mayor urges setting up testing centres in airports, train stations – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/125958/set-up-covid-19-testing-centres-in-airports-train-stations-brussels-mayor-says/)
* **5 August**: Antwerp testing ‘village’ initiates work – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/125037/antwerp-coronatest-village-opens-tomorrow-heres-how-it-works/)

###### July

* **23 July**: Belgium tightens restrictions and makes masks mandatory in more places – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/123013/belgiums-security-council-tightens-coronavirus-measures-again/)
* **14 July**: Lack of testing and coordination needs to improve for second wave – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/belgium/121465/new-coronavirus-infections-rise-by-11-compared-to-last-week/)
* **10 July**: Belgium makes face masks mandatory in stores – [Brussels Times](https://www.politico.eu/article/belgium-to-make-masks-mandatory-in-shops-cinemas-museums/)
* **6 July**: Blood donations at critical low in Belgium – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/120209/belgiums-blood-reserves-hit-critical-low-amid-coronavirus-lockdown/)
* **3 July**: Belgium candidate to host RescEU – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/eu-affairs/119823/belgium-candidate-to-manage-eus-emergency-face-mask-stock/)
* **2 July**: Belgians want mandatory face masks in businesses – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/health/119765/3-in-4-belgians-want-mandatory-face-masks-in-businesses/)

###### June

* **30 June**: First Flemish city makes masks mandatory in shops and supermarkets in anticipation of second wave – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/119447/first-flemish-city-makes-masks-mandatory-in-supermarkets/)
* **22 June**: First testing center outside hospitals in Belgium – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/117939/voluntary-doctors-set-up-brussels-first-covid-19-testing-centre/)
* **10 June**: Belgium’s 15 million face masks do not meet safety standards – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/116016/belgiums-15-million-face-masks-do-not-meet-safety-standards/)
* **7 June**: Belgian government present financial injection for hospitals – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/115590/health-minister-announces-one-billion-euro-injection-for-hospitals/)
* **4 June**: Every Belgian resident will receive mask by next week, according to PM – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/health/115044/every-belgian-will-receive-face-mask-by-next-week-pm-says/)
* **3 June**: Belgium not confident over company providing 15 million masks - [Nieuwsblad](https://www.nieuwsblad.be/cnt/dmf20200602_04978834)
* **2 June**: New strategy includes to test contacts of those infected twice – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/health/114796/coronavirus-belgium-may-test-contacts-of-infected-citizens-twice/)

###### May

* **19 May**: Belgium’s face mask filter order will arrive late – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/112368/belgiums-face-mask-orders-will-not-be-delivered-on-time/)
* **13 May**: Belgium expects first million masks on Friday – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/111489/belgium-expects-first-million-ordered-masks-on-friday/)
* **11 May**: Belgium invests 20 million in vaccine testing centre – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/health/110773/belgian-government-invests-in-vaccine-testing-centre/)
* **7 May**: Belgium orders 6 million extra face masks - [Nieuwsblad](https://www.nieuwsblad.be/cnt/dmf20200506_04948317)
* **5 May**: Brussels government orders 3 million face masks – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/brussels/109807/brussels-government-orders-3-million-face-masks/)
* **3 May**: Supermarkets can sell face masks as of May 5th – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/109408/supermarkets-can-sell-face-masks-as-of-tuesday/)
* Federal government has created taskforce shortages with 5 working groups
  + WG 1: Test capacity, diagnostica & reagentia
  + WG 2: Medicines
  + WG 3: Personal protection equipment
  + WG 4: Medical devices
  + WG 5: Distribution & Logistics

### Bulgaria

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website on coronavirus](https://coronavirus.bg/) | The national state of epidemic emergency has been extended until 31 January 2021 ([Link](https://www.garda.com/crisis24/news-alerts/406251/bulgaria-bulgaria-maintaining-covid-19-related-measures-as-of-dec-3-update-22)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.23 doses per 100 people (13 January 2021) * **Strategy**: [Bulgaria’s Vaccination Strategy](https://cms.law/en/int/expert-guides/cms-expert-guide-to-vaccine-compensation-regimes-in-the-cee/bulgaria) * **Doses Acquired**: 12-13 million Pfizer/BioNTech, AstraZeneca and Sanofi ([Link](https://in.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-bulgaria-vaccines-idINKBN28E1OI)) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Bulgaria to begin mass testing of teachers on January 25 – [Sofia Globe](https://sofiaglobe.com/2021/01/13/covid-19-bulgaria-to-begin-mass-testing-of-teachers-on-january-25/)
* **8 January:** Bulgaria expects to receive 4.5M doses of AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine – [Sofia Globe](https://medtecheurope-my.sharepoint.com/personal/b_evans_medtecheurope_org/Documents/Presented%20by%20GSK%20Consumer%20Healthcare.docx?web=1)
* **7 January:** Bulgaria to receive its first Moderna vaccines on January 11 – [Sofia Globe](https://sofiaglobe.com/2021/01/07/covid-19-bulgaria-to-receive-its-first-moderna-vaccines-on-january-11/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **21 December:** Bulgarian prosecutors probe fake PCR tests certificates after arrest at Romanian border – [Sofia Globe](https://sofiaglobe.com/2020/12/21/bulgarian-prosecutors-probe-fake-pcr-tests-certificates-after-arrest-at-romanian-border/)
* **16 December:** Balkan States Race to Secure COVID-19 Vaccine Supplies – [BalkanInsight](https://balkaninsight.com/2020/12/16/balkan-states-race-to-secure-covid-vaccine-supplies/)
* **6 December:** Bulgaria: First deliveries of Covid-19 vaccines ‘expected to begin on December 27’ – [Sofia Globe](https://sofiaglobe.com/2020/12/06/bulgaria-first-deliveries-of-covid-19-vaccines-expected-to-begin-on-december-27/)
* **7 December:** Freezer for Covid-19 vaccines arrives at regional health inspectorate in Bulgaria’s Bourgas – [Sofia Globe](https://sofiaglobe.com/2020/12/07/freezer-for-covid-19-vaccines-arrives-at-regional-health-inspectorate-in-bulgarias-bourgas/)
* **3 December:** Bulgaria’s health system on brink of collapse from coronavirus crisis – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/bulgaria-health-crisis-coronavirus-hospitals-deaths/)

###### November

* **25 November:** State of Emergency extended until 31 January 2021 - [BalkanEU](https://balkaneu.com/bulgaria-state-of-emergency-extended-until-31-january-2021/)
* **24 November:** Bulgaria to go into second lockdown – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/short_news/bulgaria-to-go-into-second-lockdown/)
* **18 November**: Next step for Bulgaria is to create hospitals for COVID-19 patients and those for other patients - [BNT](https://bntnews.bg/news/kostadin-angelov-pred-bnt-osnovnata-cel-sega-e-sistemata-da-raboti-kato-edno-cyalo-1083475news.html)

###### October

* **24 October**: Elective surgeries banned in Sofia and other cities - [Novinite](https://www.novinite.com/articles/206286/Bulgaria%3A+Ban+on+Plan+Operations%2C+All+Hospitals+in+Sofia+Have+to+Treat+COVID-19)
* **21 October**: Masks mandatory outdoors again - [BNT](https://bntnews.bg/news/merkite-se-promenyat-kakvi-novi-pravila-sreshtu-covid-19-vlizat-v-sila-u-nas-1079357news.html)

###### July

* **27 July**: Government presents 128 million euro investment in healthcare sector aimed at new equipment - [BNT](https://bntnews.bg/news/nad-250-mln-lv-dopalnitelno-za-zdraveopazvane-vdigat-zaplatite-na-medici-1067075news.html)

### Croatia

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [All Measures](https://vlada.gov.hr/koronavirus#mjere) taken by the Croatian Government * [**Measures for travellers**](https://mup.gov.hr/uzg-covid/english/286212) | Domestic restrictions remain in place ([Link](https://vlada.gov.hr/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.73 doses per 100 people (9 January 2021) * **Strategy:** *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 5.6 million ([Link](https://www.croatiaweek.com/vaccine-in-croatia-to-be-voluntary-and-free-5-6-million-doses-ordered-pfizers-expected-to-arrive-first/)) AstraZeneca, J&J, Pfizer/BioNTech, CureVac, Moderna |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **11 January:** Croatia registering fewer COVID-19 infections, hospitalisations – [CW](https://www.croatiaweek.com/croatia-registering-fewer-covid-19-infections-hospitalisations/)
* **4 January:** Croatia receives another 17,550 doses of COVID vaccine – [CW](https://www.croatiaweek.com/croatia-receives-another-17550-doses-of-covid-vaccine/)
* **3 January:** Croatia coronavirus latest: 12.4% of tests positive – [CW](https://www.croatiaweek.com/croatia-coronavirus-latest-12-4-of-tests-postitive/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **3 December:** Croatian PM says COVID vaccines will be free – [CroatiaWeek](https://www.croatiaweek.com/croatian-pm-says-covid-vaccines-will-be-free/)
* **1 December**: Croatia Imposes Requirement of PCR Test Results at Its Border Crossings – [SVI](https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/news/croatia-imposes-requirement-of-pcr-test-results-at-its-border-crossings/)

###### November

* **30 November:** New Official Guidelines for Crossing Croatian Border - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/travel/48618-crossing-croatian-border)
* **24 November**: Interior Minister Davor Bozinovic Announces Tighter Coronavirus Restrictions – [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/48418-bozinovic-announces-tighter-coronavirus-restrictions)
* **20 November**: Croatia Joins Cross-Border Sharing of COVID Data Collected by Mobile Apps – [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/48318-croatia-joins-cross-border-sharing-of-covid-data-collected-by-mobile-apps)
* **16 November**: Mass coronavirus testing being prepared in Zagreb - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/lifestyle/48200-mass-coronavirus-testing)
* **15 November**: Croatian experts expect EU common advice for testing in few weeks - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/48193-markotic-eu-covid-19-platform-to-reach-common-position-on-testing-in-a-few-weeks)
* **4 November**: Rapid coronavirus testing begins in Croatia - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/lifestyle/47892-croatian-prices)
* **3 November**: Government notes that healthcare system has successfully been adapted to pandemic - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/47882-beros-healthcare-system-successfully-adapted-to-respond-to-epidemic)

###### October

* **22 October**: Government calls to only request health service if needed – [Glas Istre](https://www.glasistre.hr/hrvatska/karlovac-sacuvati-zdravstveni-sustav-onima-koji-je-pomoc-potrebna-674817)
* **19 October**: Concerns grow bout healthcare system being overloaded - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/47495-epidemiologist-concerned-about-croatian-healthcare-system-becoming-overloaded)
* **6 October**: Mask will have to be worn indoors - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/47172-chief-epidemiologist-says-masks-will-have-to-be-worn-indoors-at-bus-stops)

###### September

* **1 September**: Zagreb opens coronavirus-dedicated hospital - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/lifestyle/46232-dubrava-hospital)

###### August

* **25 August**: Interactive map of testing locations published - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/made-in-croatia/46048-coronavirus)
* **20 August**: Hospitals prepare for Autumn and order 250 respirators - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/lifestyle/45904-croatian-hospitals)
* **17 August**: List with testing centres and prices made available by government - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/travel/45830-covid-19-testing-centres-croatia)

###### July

* **13 July**: Croatia lowers prices for individual testing - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/44989-cheaper-covid-testing-announced)
* **11 July**: Workers in high risk sectors required to wear face mask - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/travel/44924-official-govt-website-necessary-measure-of-obligatory-use-of-face-masks)
* **11 July**: Masks in stores mandatory, perhaps further restrictions soon - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/44920-croatia)

###### June

* **27 June**: New PPE shipment arrives from China - [TCN](https://www.total-croatia-news.com/news/44588-new-shipment-with-protective-equipment-arrives-from-china)

###### May

* **25 May**: Masks in Croatia to have a precise declaration with basic product information – [Dubrovnik Times](https://www.thedubrovniktimes.com/news/croatia/item/9077-masks-in-croatia-to-have-a-precise-declaration)
* **14 May**: Government puts a price cap on COVID-19 tests – [E15](https://www.e15.cz/koronahelpdesk-e15/stat-zastropuje-cenu-testu-na-covid-19-podle-cestovek-bude-i-tak-moc-vysoka-1369690)
* **4 May**: Healthcare restarted as part of exit strategy – [Dubrovnik Times](https://www.thedubrovniktimes.com/news/croatia/item/8900-second-phase-of-relaxing-of-covid-19-measures-comes-into-force-today-as-croatia-slowly-emerges-from-pandemic)

### Cyprus

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [State website on COVID-19 measures](https://www.covid19.cy/) * Overview of testing protocols for travellers (B countries require negative PCR test) – [Visit Cyprus](https://www.visitcyprus.com/index.php/en/cyprus-covid19-travel-protocol) | Domestic restrictions were further tightened 11 December 2020 due to rising COVID-19 cases. Restrictions will remain in place until at least 31 December 2020 ([Link](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.69doses per 100 people (10 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Cyprus’s Vaccination Strategy](https://knews.kathimerini.com.cy/en/news/cyprus-draws-up-coronavirus-vaccination-strategy) * **Doses Acquired:** 1.2 million ([Link](https://knews.kathimerini.com.cy/en/news/cyprus-draws-up-coronavirus-vaccination-strategy)) AstraZeneca (0.6 million), J&J (0.2), Pfizer/ BioNTech (0.2) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **12 January:** Cyprus in 8th position regarding vaccinations against COVID-19 – [IC](https://in-cyprus.philenews.com/cyprus-in-8th-position-regarding-vaccinations-against-covid-19/)
* **12 January:** Cyprus in EU top 10 for vaccination rollout – [FM](https://www.financialmirror.com/2021/01/12/covid19-cyprus-in-eu-top-10-for-vaccination-rollout/)
* **12 January:** Okypy rejects censure from medical staff unions – [CyprusMail](https://cyprus-mail.com/2021/01/12/coronavirus-okypy-rejects-censure-from-medical-staff-unions/)
* **11 January:** First doses of Moderna vaccine within days – [CyprusMail](https://cyprus-mail.com/2021/01/11/coronavirus-first-doses-of-moderna-vaccine-within-days/)
* **11 January:** Cyprus asks vaccines from Israel amid EU delay – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/news/cyprus-asks-vaccines-from-israel-amid-eu-delay/)
* **10 January:** Cyprus cannot rely on vaccines alone to control pandemic – [FM](https://www.financialmirror.com/2021/01/10/covid19-cyprus-cannot-rely-on-vaccines-alone-to-control-pandemic/)
* **5 January:** China pledges to offer necessary help to Cyprus in COVID-19 fight – [CGTN](https://news.cgtn.com/news/2021-01-05/China-pledges-to-offer-necessary-help-to-Cyprus-in-COVID-19-fight-WNpC7uvIze/index.html)
* **5 January:** Greece and Cyprus detect infections of new COVID strain – [NE](https://www.neweurope.eu/article/greece-and-cyprus-detect-infections-of-new-covid-strain/)
* **5 January:** Cyprus mulls another national lockdown – [FM](https://www.financialmirror.com/2021/01/05/covid19-cyprus-mulls-another-national-lockdown/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **14 December:** Coronavirus: New guidelines for contacts of virus cases – [CyprusMail](https://cyprus-mail.com/2020/12/14/coronavirus-new-guidelines-for-contacts-of-virus-cases/)
* **14 December:** Coronavirus: 15 rapid test locations for Tuesday - [CyprusMail](https://cyprus-mail.com/2020/12/14/coronavirus-15-rapid-test-locations-for-tuesday/)
* **6 December:** Coronavirus: Storing vaccine a big challenge – [CyprusMail](https://cyprus-mail.com/2020/12/06/coronavirus-storing-vaccine-a-big-challenge/)
* **4 December**: Cyprus hopes to roll out Covid vaccine by year-end – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20201204-cyprus-hopes-to-roll-out-covid-vaccine-by-year-end)
* **1 December**: Coronavirus: first vaccine delivery by month’s end – [CyprusMail](https://cyprus-mail.com/2020/12/01/coronavirus-first-vaccine-delivery-by-months-end/)

###### November

* **25 November**: Experts meet with president, cabinet extends rapid testing scheme – [Cyprus Mail](https://cyprus-mail.com/2020/11/25/coronavirus-experts-meeting-with-president-inconclusive/)
* **15 November**: Free testing programme to begin island wide on Monday – [Cyprus Mail](https://cyprus-mail.com/2020/11/15/coronavirus-free-tests-for-all-paphos-residents-to-start-monday/)

###### September

* **8 September**: Cyprus starts sample testing of adults aged 18-40 - [CNA](http://www.cna.org.cy/WebNews-en.aspx?a=12f09b5ac9b7439eb6c88476fe0ef6d3)

###### May

* **18 May**: Sample tests remain in phase 2 of lockdown easing - [CNA](http://www.cna.org.cy/WebNews-en.aspx?a=068c6f2a768f4e48830ca7093cc2bf6e)
* **13 May**: More PPE to arrive from China - [CNA](http://www.cna.org.cy/WebNews-en.aspx?a=7058d7a4d9454ab28974bcd2fb6a6412)
* **8 May:** New decree sets cap price on masks while allowing easing of more measures – [In Cyprus](https://in-cyprus.philenews.com/new-moh-decree-sets-cap-for-face-mask-price-eases-measures-on-exercise/)
* **6 May**: Masks are running out in pharmacies - [CNA](http://www.cna.org.cy/WebNews.aspx?a=c8024511572b41629eba950264eac97d)
* **4 May**: Hospital restrictions eased from May 4th - [CNA](http://www.cna.org.cy/WebNews-en.aspx?a=c421b9324d7442d89f2ef3a404424172)

### Czechia

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [COVID-19: where to find official information](https://www.labtestsonline.cz/novinky/koronavirus-sars-cov-2-kde-ziskat-relevantni-informace.html?fbclid=IwAR2HcWu1H80ENLkOlqDQvM_qx8kJZ9JsGunXqFf2WV5aXZde76MamiIfBwA) * Overview of testing protocols for travellers to Czech Republic – [Czech Ministry of Interior](https://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/coronavirus-information-of-moi.aspx) | Health officials in the Czechia are extending the nation's COVID-19 related State of Emergency (SoE) until 22 January 2021 ([Link](https://koronavirus.mzcr.cz/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.19doses per 100 people (6 January 2021) * **Strategy:** *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 5.5 million ([Link](https://www.vlada.cz/en/media-centrum/aktualne/government-to-propose-president-appoint-petr-mlsna-as-new-chairman-of-the-office-for-the-protection-of-competition--discusses-plan-for-new-vaccines-185180/)) AstraZeneca, J&J, Pfizer/BioNTech, CureVac, Moderna |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **12 January:** rescEU medical stockpile expands in four member states – [EUReporter](https://www.eureporter.co/frontpage/2021/01/12/coronavirus-resceu-medical-stockpile-expands-in-four-member-states/)
* **7 January:** Czechia reports record number of daily COVID-19 cases – [AA](https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/czechia-reports-record-number-of-daily-covid-19-cases/2102086)
* **4 January:** Czech Residents Can Register for COVID-19 Vaccine From February 1 – [PRAGUE MORNING](https://www.praguemorning.cz/czech-residents-can-register-for-covid-19-vaccine-from-february-1/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **27 December:** Czech Republic starts coronavirus vaccine rollout – [REUTERS](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-czech-vaccination/czech-republic-starts-coronavirus-vaccine-rollout-idUSKBN29106R)
* **14 December:** Czech Government Wants to Begin Antigen Testing on Wednesday – [Prague Morning](https://www.praguemorning.cz/czech-government-wants-to-begin-antigen-testing-on-wednesday/)
* **7 December:** Czechia urged to implement inclusive, resilient recovery – [Emerging Europe](https://emerging-europe.com/news/czechia-urged-to-implement-inclusive-resilient-recovery/)
* **1 December**: Czechia to receive first COVID-19 vaccine deliveries in January or February, says Health minister – [Radio Prague](https://english.radio.cz/czechia-receive-first-covid-19-vaccine-deliveries-january-or-february-says-8701720)

###### November

* **20 November**: Cabinet Extends State of Emergency until 12 December 2020. Some Restrictions to Be Eased Starting on Monday – [Government of the Czech Republic](https://www.vlada.cz/en/media-centrum/aktualne/cabinet-extends-state-of-emergency-until-12-december-2020--some-restrictions-to-be-eased-starting-on-monday--185010/)
* **12 November**: Deputy PM underlines that there are enough reserves of protective gear – [Czech Radio](https://english.radio.cz/deputy-prime-minister-reserves-protective-gear-sufficient-8699935)

###### October

* **9 October**: Multiple hospitals have cancelled planned surgeries - [Tyden](https://www.tyden.cz/rubriky/domaci/nemocnice-rusi-planovane-operace-potrebuji-luzka-pro-nemocne-s-covidem_547938.html)

###### September

* **21 September**: Face masks requirements extended in some Czech areas – [Czech Radio](https://english.radio.cz/face-mask-requirement-extended-some-places-prague-universities-switch-online-8692704)
* **9 September**: Face masks to become compulsory in all inside spaces and buildings – [Czech Radio](https://english.radio.cz/health-minister-face-masks-compulsory-enclosed-spaces-throughout-country-8691571)

###### August

* **17 August**: Facemasks again mandatory in indoor spaces and public transport – [Czech Radio](https://english.radio.cz/coronavirus-facemasks-again-mandatory-czech-indoor-public-spaces-public-8689452)

###### July

* **14 July**: Wearing facemasks in public transport might be mandatory in October – [Czech Radio](https://english.radio.cz/wearing-facemasks-czech-public-transport-may-be-mandatory-autumn-health-minister-8686308)
* **1 July**: Facemask requirement dropped in most parts of the country – [Czech Radio](https://english.radio.cz/facemask-requirement-now-dropped-most-parts-country-8685222)

###### June

* **18 June**: Indoor mask requirement to end on July 1st – [Czech Radio](https://english.radio.cz/indoor-facemask-requirement-end-july-1-8684059)

###### May

* **11 May**: Masks not mandatory anymore from 25 May, except for public transport – [E15](https://www.e15.cz/koronahelpdesk-e15/ven-bez-rousky-budou-moci-cesi-vyrazit-uz-za-dva-tydny-v-mhd-budou-dal-povinne-1369563)
* **8 May**: Health Minister plans to waive mask obligation from mid-June – [E15](https://www.e15.cz/koronahelpdesk-e15/vojtech-od-pulky-cervna-by-se-venku-nemusely-nosit-rousky-1369481)
* **3 May**: Final PPE delivery from China arrives – [Czech Radio](https://www.radio.cz/en/section/news/coronavirus-czechs-receive-final-chinese-delivery-of-protective-gear)

### Denmark

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website on COVID-19 measures in Denmark](https://coronasmitte.dk/en) | Health officials in Denmark to tighten coronavirus disease-related domestic restrictions from 6 January 2021 ([Link](https://coronasmitte.dk/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 2.02doses per 100 people (11 January 2021) * **Strategy**: [Denmark’s Official Vaccination Strategy](https://www.sst.dk/-/media/Udgivelser/2020/Corona/Vaccination/Udrulning-af-vaccination-mod-COVID-19.ashx?la=da&hash=6E61F582E69776E061F83D962290D0523FF71EFA) (in Danish) * **Doses Acquired**: 19.3 million doses |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Denmark introduces rapid Covid-19 tests at German borders – [DW](https://www.thelocal.de/20210113/denmark-introduces-rapid-covid-19-tests-at-german-borders)
* **9 January:** Denmark bans flights without negative Covid-19 tests – [DW](https://www.thelocal.dk/20210109/denmark-stops-flights-landing-without-negative-covid-19-tests)
* **8 January:** Denmark developing digital COVID-19 "vaccine passport" – [REUTERS](https://news.trust.org/item/20210108102547-wylec/)
* **5 January:** Denmark to expand Covid-19 vaccination program by delaying second dose – [DK](https://www.thelocal.dk/20210105/denmark-to-expand-covid-19-vaccination-program-by-delaying-second-dose)
* **5 January:** Denmark moves to highest Covid-19 alert level amid concerns over more infectious variant – [DK](https://www.thelocal.dk/20210105/latest-denmark-moves-to-highest-covid-19-alert-level-amid-concerns-over-b117-variant)
* **4 January:** Germany mulls delaying second COVID-19 vaccine shot, Denmark approves delay – [REUTERS](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-vaccines-germany/germany-mulls-delaying-second-covid-19-vaccine-shot-denmark-approves-delay-idUSKBN2991M4)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **16 December:** Record increase of COVID-19 hospitalisations in Denmark – [CPH Post](https://cphpost.dk/?p=121328)
* **15 December:** Denmark has enough hospital beds to handle COVID-19 – [CPH Post](https://cphpost.dk/?p=121307)
* **7 December:** Denmark tightens lockdown to curb COVID-19 spike – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-denmark-idUSKBN28H1AF)
* **1 December**: Government announces plans to test 200,000 youngsters in Greater Copenhagen – [CPH Post](https://cphpost.dk/?p=120962)
* **1 December**: First Danes likely to get COVID-19 vaccinations next month – [CPH Post](https://cphpost.dk/?p=120956)

###### November

* **27 November**: Denmark presents Covid-19 vaccination plan: first vaccines could be offered in December – [The Local](https://www.thelocal.dk/20201127/denmark-presents-covid-19-vaccination-plan-first-vaccines-could-be-offered-in-december)
* **20 November**: Government extends COVID-19 gathering restrictions up until 13 December – [CPH Post](https://cphpost.dk/?p=120647)
* **13 November**: Government advises against rapid testing on symptomatic people – [CPH Post](https://cphpost.dk/?p=120324)

###### October

* **21 October**: People with mild symptoms can book their own test – [CPH Post](http://cphpost.dk/?p=119558)

###### September

* **23 September**: Health rapporteur concerned about sending people 500,000 unreliable tests – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-09-23-myndigheder-sender-usikker-antistoftest-til-500000-danskere)
* **21 September**: Over a million to receive COVID-19 antibody test – [CPH Post](http://cphpost.dk/?p=118503)
* **9 September**: Waiting time for tests currently several days instead of 24 hours – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/politik/2020-09-09-flere-dages-ventetid-paa-coronatests-faar-kritik-det-er-helt-naturligt-svarer-s)
* **9 September**: Test capacity expanded in Copenhagen and airport – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/politik/2020-09-09-testkapaciteten-udvides-i-koebenhavn-og-fordobles-i-lufthavnen)

###### August

* **15 August**: Face masks to be mandatory in public transport – [CPH Post](http://cphpost.dk/?p=117528)

###### July

* **31 July**: Mask use recommended in public transport – [CPH Post](http://cphpost.dk/?p=117169)
* **28 July**: Mask obligation is being looked at by government – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-07-28-brostroem-vi-har-ansigtsmasker-i-vores-vaerktoejskasse)
* **13 July**: Sharp increase in number of Danes wanting to wear a mask – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-07-13-flere-vil-have-mundbind-efter-styrelses-maskerad)

###### June

* **14 June**: National Health Board underestimated need of PPE – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-06-14-sundhedsstyrelsen-holdt-21-krisemoeder-foer-de-undersoegte-lagrene-af)

###### May

* **24 May**: Anyone can order corona tests without reference – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-05-24-alle-kan-nu-bestille-test-for-coronavirus-uden-henvisning)
* **18 May**: All adults can register to be tested this week – [CPH Post](http://cphpost.dk/?p=114253)
* **14 May**: Denmark to introduce mobile test vehicles in its strategy – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-05-14-mobile-testkoeretoejer-skal-bringe-corona-test-taettere-paa-danskerne)
* **12 May**: Denmark presents ambitious coronavirus testing strategy – [CPH Post](http://cphpost.dk/?p=113988)
* **12 May**: Denmark sets up corona board for procurement of PPE and tests – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-05-12-regeringen-opretter-en-ny-coronastyrelse)
* **12 May**: Private hospitals must help with reopening health care to full capacity – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-05-12-ny-aftale-private-sygehuse-skal-afvikle-patientpukkel)
* **11 May**: Testing strategy and PPE determines which parts of Denmark can go to phase 3 of exit from June 8 – [CPH Post](http://cphpost.dk/?p=113962)
* **7 May**: Danish government asks more people to be tested – [TV2](https://nyheder.tv2.dk/samfund/2020-05-07-flere-tusinde-danskere-faar-i-dag-indkaldelse-til-corona-test)

### Estonia

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website on COVID-19 in Estonia](https://www.terviseamet.ee/en/covid19) * Overview of travelling protocols for Estonia - [Kriis](https://vm.ee/en/information-countries-and-self-isolation-requirements-passengers) | Authorities in Estonia have tightened restrictions in certain jurisdictions due to COVID-19 activity. From 28 December 2020 through at least 17 January 2021 ([Link](https://www.valitsus.ee/et)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 1.00doses per 100 people (13 January 2021) * **Strategy**: [Estonia’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.vaktsineeri.ee/en) * **Doses Acquired**: 1.6 million ([Link](https://news.err.ee/1148730/estonia-has-preliminary-plan-in-place-for-coronavirus-vaccinations)) AstraZeneca (1.3 million), J&J (0.3) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** First Moderna COVID-19 vaccines arrive in Estonia – [ERR News](https://news.err.ee/1608072064/first-moderna-covid-19-vaccines-arrive-in-estonia)
* **12 January:** Estonia set to receive over 10,000 COVID-19 vaccine doses next week – [ERR News](https://news.err.ee/1608072064/first-moderna-covid-19-vaccines-arrive-in-estonia)
* **8 January:** Sewage monitoring study predicting rise in COVID-19 across Estonia – [ERR News](https://news.err.ee/1232209/sewage-monitoring-study-predicting-rise-in-covid-19-across-estonia)
* **7 January:** Negative COVID-19 test must be shown on arrival to Estonia from January 15 – [ERR News](https://news.err.ee/1230640/negative-covid-19-test-must-be-shown-on-arrival-to-estonia-from-january-15)
* **4 January:** Second batch of COVID-19 vaccines arrive in Estonia – [ERR News](https://news.err.ee/1227820/second-batch-of-covid-19-vaccines-arrive-in-estonia)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **16 December:** Tartu researchers highlight additional COVID-19 symptoms – [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1209070/tartu-researchers-highlight-additional-covid-19-symptoms)
* **15 December:** Kiik: 100,000 people to get coronavirus vaccination in Q1 2021 – [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1208614/kiik-100-000-people-to-get-coronavirus-vaccination-in-q1-2021)
* **15 December:** Government allocates nearly €190,000 for vaccine storage – [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1208275/government-allocates-nearly-190-000-for-vaccine-storage)
* **15 December:** National COVID-19 vaccination plan aims to start vaccinations in January - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1208221/national-covid-19-vaccination-plan-aims-to-start-vaccinations-in-january)
* **1 December**: Estonia preparing to start COVID-19 vaccinations in January - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1192396/estonia-preparing-to-start-covid-19-vaccinations-in-january)

###### November

* **20 November**: Estonia supports the Czech Republic’s healthcare system in mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak – [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](https://vm.ee/en/news/estonia-supports-czech-republics-healthcare-system-mitigating-impact-covid-19-outbreak)
* **18 November**: Planned treatment will have to be postponed if trend continues, hospital chief says - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1160256/hospital-chief-doctor-lockdown-inevitable-in-estonia)
* **15 November**: Synlab aims to increase testing capacity to 10,000 by December - [ERR](https://www.err.ee/1159364/synlab-plaanib-tosta-oma-testimisvoimekust-10-000-ni-oopaevas)

###### October

* **7 October**: Tallin region to launch mask wearing campaign - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1144026/tallinn-to-launch-mask-wearing-campaign)
* **5 October**: Head of the Health Board advices citizens to get used to mask-wearing - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1143124/health-board-emergency-medicine-chief-we-need-to-get-used-to-face-masks)
* **2 October**: Health Board encourages people to wear masks - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1142412/health-board-encouraging-people-to-wear-masks)

###### September

* **8 September**: Health board issues validation mark to local test producer - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1132417/health-board-approves-covid-19-antibody-test-development-in-estonia)

###### August

* **10 August**: Large rise in COVID-19 testing as cases surge - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1122263/synlab-sees-large-rise-in-covid-19-testing-after-tartu-outbreak)
* **8 August**: Estonia orders over 3 million masks for potential second wave - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1121945/state-orders-over-3-million-face-masks-for-potential-fall-covid-19-wave)

###### July

* **28 July**: Estonia announces €10 million tender for coronavirus testing organizer - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1117760/estonia-announces-10-million-tender-for-coronavirus-testing-organizer)
* **14 July**: PPE procurement process is underway, says Minister - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1112831/aab-procurement-for-ppe-in-progress-many-items-can-be-made-in-estonia)
* **13 July**: Current supply of PPE is too low for second wave - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1112400/health-board-short-on-ppe-and-medicine-for-possible-second-wave-of-covid-19)

###### June

* **23 June**: Estonian manufacturer start making antiviral protective screens and masks - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1073934/estonian-manufacturer-starts-making-antiviral-protective-screens-and-masks)
* **8 June**: PPE stocks higher than before pandemic – [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1099625/ppe-reserves-significantly-higher-now-than-before-pandemic)

###### May

* **26 May**: Health board discussing relaxation of rules around planned treatment - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1094399/health-board-discussing-relaxation-of-rules-around-planned-treatment)
* **18 May**: End of state of emergency also make resuming health care possible - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1091069/end-of-emergency-situation-also-brings-changes-in-health-care)
* **14 May**: Government planning to build two months’ stock of PPE - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1090052/prime-minister-estonia-should-have-crisis-supplies-for-at-least-two-months)
* **13 May**: Spread of coronavirus postpones scheduled treatment in Tallinn hospital - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1089100/spread-of-coronavirus-postpones-scheduled-treatment-in-tallinn-hospital)
* **6 May**: Baltic states to reopen internal borders from May 15 on - [ERR](https://news.err.ee/1086369/baltic-states-to-reopen-internal-borders-on-may-15)

### Finland

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website on COVID-19](https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/frontpage) * Overview of travel protocols for Finland – [Finnish Government](https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/information-on-coronavirus/current-restrictions#:~:text=Travel%20within%20Finland%20is%20allowed,good%20hand%20and%20respiratory%20hygiene.) | Social distancing measures in effect until 10 January 2021 ([Link](https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/information-on-coronavirus)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.32doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Official Vaccination Strategy](https://vnk.fi/documents/10616/9459302/Suomen%2Brokotestrategia%2B2.12.2020%2BFINAL%284%29.pdf/29744813-2df1-d6e3-529a-5760bc39b12a?t=1606936585749) (in Finnish) * **Doses Acquired:** 3.6 million *through the EU* |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Finland targeting bigger share of new BioNTech vaccine order – [YLE](https://www.politico.eu/article/finnish-pm-calls-on-commission-to-speed-up-vaccine-distribution/)
* **12 January:** Finnish PM calls on Commission to speed up vaccine distribution – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/finnish-pm-calls-on-commission-to-speed-up-vaccine-distribution/)
* **12 January:** Finland plans Covid testing aboard passenger ships from Tallinn – [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/finland_plans_covid_testing_aboard_passenger_ships_from_tallinn/11734234)
* **1 January:** Finland joins European coronavirus tracing network – [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/finland_joins_european_coronavirus_tracing_network/11721765)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **29 December:** COVID-19: Finland reports cases of new variants first identified in UK and South Africa – [Sky News](https://news.sky.com/story/covid-19-finland-reports-cases-of-new-variants-first-identified-in-uk-and-south-africa-12173983)
* **3 December**: Finland to offer Covid-19 vaccine to everyone, starting with health care staff – [Helsinki Times](https://www.helsinkitimes.fi/finland/finland-news/domestic/18381-finland-to-offer-covid-19-vaccine-to-everyone-starting-with-health-care-staff.html)
* **2 December**: Face mask sales skyrocket but there's still adequate supply, retailers say – [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/face_mask_sales_skyrocket_but_theres_still_adequate_supply_retailers_say/11677761)
* **1 December**: Labs battle COVID testing supplies shortage – [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/labs_battle_covid_testing_supplies_shortage/11675261)

###### November

* **30 November**: Coronavirus vaccines may be available in Finland before Christmas – [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/ministry_coronavirus_vaccines_may_be_available_in_finland_before_christmas/11673597)
* **19 November**: Finland and Vietnam collaborate to use AI for cost-effective COVID-19 mass testing – [Business Science](https://sciencebusiness.net/network-updates/business-finland-finland-and-vietnam-collaborate-use-ai-cost-effective-covid-19)
* **13 November**: Finland is considering the use of self-administered corona tests - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/finland_ponders_self-administered_covid_test/11646366)
* **11 November:** High demand in flu shots creates shortages - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/corona_autumn_prompts_surge_in_demand_for_seasonal_flu_jab/11642614)

###### October

* **22 October**: Government finalizing testing rules for arrivals in Finland – [Helsinki Times](https://www.helsinkitimes.fi/finland/finland-news/domestic/18197-yle-government-finalising-coronavirus-testing-rules-for-arrivals-in-finland.html)
* **13 October**: Mask guidelines tightened at airports - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/mask_guidelines_tightened_at_finlands_airports_and_parliament/11593301)
* **6 October**: Government promises action as Helsinki leaders demand more mask usage - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/pm_marin_promises_action_as_helsinki_leaders_demand_more_mask_usage/11581315)
* **1 October**: Health Ministry recommends using masks in all of Finland – [Helsinki Times](https://www.helsinkitimes.fi/finland/finland-news/domestic/18126-thl-coronavirus-epidemic-is-accelerating-masks-recommended-in-all-parts-of-finland.html)

###### September

* **15 September**: Finland eases corona testing backlogs - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/finland_eases_corona_testing_backlogs/11544488)

###### August

* **20 August**: Mask prices drop sharply - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/mask_prices_in_finland_drop_sharply/11504674)
* **19 August**: Finland plans to increase testing capacity to 20,000 a day - [YLE](file:///C:\Users\f.vandenbroeck\Documents\finland_plans_to_increase_testing_capacity_to_20000_per_day)
* **19 August**: Masks for work and commuting can be tax deductible - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/masks_used_for_work_and_commuting_can_be_tax_deductible/11502366)
* **11 August**: Face mask demand prompts some shops to limit sales - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/face_mask_demand_prompts_some_shops_to_limit_sales/11489222)
* **11 August**: Covid testing delays grow in Helsinki region - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/one_week_covid_testing_delays_grow_in_helsinki_region/11488937)
* **10 August**: Employers don’t have to pay for face masks - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/employers_dont_have_to_pay_for_face_masks_experts_say/11486349)
* **7 August**: Turku region issues face mask recommendation - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/city_of_turku_issues_face_mask_recommendations_ahead_of_national_guidelines/11484396)
* **4 August**: Mask sales spike in Finland - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/mask_sales_spike_across_finland/11478502)

###### July

* **28 July**: Finnish health experts call for national recommendation on face masks - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/finland_ponders_face_masks_as_second_wave_concerns_mount/11468078)
* **24 July**: Strong increase in testing, but variations in access in Finland - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/thl_variations_in_access_to_covid-19_testing_in_finland/11463845)

###### June

* **29 June**: Helsinki to trial coronavirus breathalyser - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/helsinki_to_trial_coronavirus_breathalyser/11423684)
* **4 June**: Finnish government not issuing face mask use guidelines - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/finnish_govt_not_issuing_specific_face_mask_use_guidelines/11383815)
* **3 June**: Finnish researchers call for mandatory mask use - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/finnish_researchers_call_for_widespread_mask_use_in_open_letter/11382168)
* **2 June**: Government appointed expert panel advices for obligatory mask wearing until vaccine available - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/govt-appointed_panel_recommends_mask_use_until_coronavirus_vaccine_available/11380644)

###### May

* **25 May**: Ministry requests procurement of 100 million euros of PPE - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/coronavirus_latest_health_ministry_requests_100m_in_ppe_death_toll_slows/11249610)
* **19 May**: Helsinki to increase testing capacity to 4,000 a day by Autumn - [YLE](https://yle.fi/uutiset/osasto/news/hus_testing_capacity_to_rise_sharply_by_autumn/11358934)
* **18 May:** Finnair boosting cargo capacity by stripping seats from passenger planes - [YLE](https://www.helsinkitimes.fi/finland/news-in-brief/17683-coronavirus-finnair-boosts-cargo-capacity-by-removing-seats-from-unused-passenger-planes.html)
* **12 May**: Private antibody testing numbers increasing - [HS](https://www.hs.fi/kotimaa/art-2000006505584.html)

### France

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official information](https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus) from the government. * Overview of protocols for travellers entering France – [French Government](https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus/vacances) * [Recommendations and protocols dealing with COVID-19 for HCPs](https://solidarites-sante.gouv.fr/soins-et-maladies/maladies/maladies-infectieuses/coronavirus/professionnels-de-sante/) | Officials to tighten existing COVID-19-related curfew measures in eight departments from 10 January 2021. Curfew is in effect nationwide through at least 20 January 2021. A stricter 1800-0600 curfew is in effect in 15 departments in the eastern part of the country ([Link](https://www.gouvernement.fr/info-coronavirus)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.29doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [[France’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.politico.eu/article/france-releases-coronavirus-vaccination-plan/)](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/Covid-19-Five-stage-vaccination-plan-for-France) * **Doses Acquired:** 200 million ([Link](https://www.politico.eu/article/france-releases-coronavirus-vaccination-plan/)) 6 different vaccines |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **12 January:** Up to 30 percent of France's Covid vaccine doses could end up in the bin – [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20210112-up-to-30-percent-of-france-s-covid-vaccine-doses-could-end-up-in-the-bin)
* **12 January:** French government partners with Doctolib for Covid-19 vaccine appointments – [FR](https://www.thelocal.fr/20210112/french-government-partners-with-doctolib-to-allow-people-to-book-covid-19-vaccine-appointments-online)
* **12 January:** Online vaccine reservations open this week – [CX](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-Covid-19-Online-vaccine-reservations-open-this-week-for-75s-and-over)
* **11 January:** French government calls on Sanofi to share facilities with competitors – [POLITICO](https://pro.politico.eu/news/129647)
* **11 January:** How Sanofi got left behind in the race for the Covid-19 vaccine – [Le Monde](https://www.lemonde.fr/economie/article/2021/01/11/covid-19-le-destin-contrarie-du-vaccin-de-sanofi_6065825_3234.html)
* **10 January:** France rejects criticism of EU coronavirus vaccine procurement – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/clement-beaune-interview-coronavirus-vaccines-defends-eu/)
* **4 January:** France’s go-slow coronavirus vaccination strategy backfires – [AP](https://apnews.com/article/pandemics-europe-emmanuel-macron-coronavirus-pandemic-france-6436e64415a442b514a5e780e7c9852a)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **31 December:** France under pressure to speed up coronavirus vaccine rollout – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/france-under-pressure-to-speed-up-coronavirus-vaccine-rollout/)
* **21 December:** An estimation of undetected COVID cases in France – [nature](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-03513-9)
* **16 December:** France prepares as EU says Covid vaccine ready within a week – [The Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-prepares-as-EU-says-Covid-vaccine-ready-within-a-week)
* **15 December:** France: Isolation and Covid tests advised for festive season – [The Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-Isolation-and-Covid-tests-advised-for-festive-season-Conseil-Scientifique-recommends)
* **14 December:** France launches mass Covid-19 screening campaigns before lifting lockdown – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/europe/20201214-france-launches-mass-covid-19-screening-campaigns-before-lifting-lockdown)
* **2 December**: France plans coronavirus vaccine drive for general population in April – [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20201202-france-plans-coronavirus-vaccine-drive-for-general-population-in-april)

###### November

* **30 November**: French health authority wants Covid-19 vaccination to be optional – [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20201130-coronavirus-vaccine-not-obligatory-anti-vax-elderly-medical-key-workers-priority)
* **24 November**: Macron eases coronavirus lockdown ahead of Christmas – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/france-coronavirus-lockdown-emmanuel-macron-eases-restrictions/)
* **17 November**: France targets January for vaccination campaign launch - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20201117-france-preparing-to-launch-covid-19-vaccination-campaign-from-january-moderna-pfizer-sanofi)
* **4 November**: France sets aside another 20bn euros to support businesses during the pandemic - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20201104-french-government-promises-another-20-billion-euros-in-fourth-budget-of-covid-epidemic-economy-health)

###### October

* **27 October**: Major French airports to launch new rapid tests - [Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/Major-French-airports-to-launch-fast-new-30-minute-coronavirus-test)
* **20 October**: Rush for flu vaccine depletes French pharmacy stocks amid Covid concerns - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20201020-rush-for-flu-vaccine-depletes-french-pharmacy-stocks-amid-covid-19-concerns-double-epidemic)
* **17 October**: “Hospitals do not have means to handle second wave” – [Le Monde](https://www.lemonde.fr/idees/article/2020/10/17/covid-19-l-hopital-n-a-pas-les-moyens-d-affronter-la-deuxieme-vague-epidemique_6056367_3232.html?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=c5a44a2816-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_10_18_02_59&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-c5a44a2816-190134045)
* **7 October**: Testing numbers decrease in France - [Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/Covid-19-France-Is-less-testing-a-good-thing)

###### September

* 28 September: Hospitals are postponing planned surgeries - [Euronews](https://www.euronews.com/2020/09/28/french-hospitals-postpone-operations-to-make-space-for-covid-patients)
* **28 September**: France to release five million 30-minute COVID-19 tests - [Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-to-release-5million-30-minute-Covid-19-tests)
* **23** **September**: France requests citizens to give blood due to low reserve - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200922-france-appeals-for-blood-donations-as-virus-drives-stocks-to-historic-low-efs-coronavirus-hospitals-reserves)
* **18 September**: ICU beds in south to be full by mid-October if nothing changes - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200917-health-minister-says-virus-remains-very-active-in-france-but-no-return-to-general-lockdown)
* **15 September**: More local restrictions in France due to rising numbers - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200915-marseille-bordeaux-ramp-up-covid-19-restrictions-in-response-to-virus-surge)
* **9 September**: Paris to open 20 new testing centres - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200909-paris-region-announces-20-new-covid-test-sites-to-meet-soaring-demand-screening-coronavirus-health-epidemic-hospitals)
* **7 September**: Court rules that masks can be mandatory in cities - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200907-french-high-court-upholds-mandatory-mask-orders-in-large-cities-council-state-strasbourg-lyon-anti-maskers)
* **7 September**: ICU beds fill up in Marseille due to new Covid-19 spreads - [RFI](https://www.rfi.fr/en/france/20200907-france-intensive-care-icu-beds-fill-up-around-marseille-as-covid-spreads-to-older-patients)
* **3 September**: France invests 6 billion in health care system reform - [GOV](https://www.economie.gouv.fr/files/files/directions_services/plan-de-relance/annexe-fiche-mesures.pdf?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=a896db5c5f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_09_04_05_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-a896db5c5f-190517313)

###### August

* **28 August**: Masks mandatory throughout Paris – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/20200828-face-masks-compulsory-throughout-paris-from-8-am-local-time)
* **24 August**: France reaches 700,000 tests a week - [Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-hits-700-000-coronavirus-Covid-19-testing-aim-but-rentree-relaunch-delayed-confirms-government)
* **21 August**: French scientists review Covid saliva testing - [Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-reviews-Covid-19-PCR-saliva-tests)
* **21 August**: Masks mandatory at schools - [Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/Masks-mandatory-in-French-schools-for-la-rentree)
* **19 August**: Toulouse makes masks mandatory outdoors – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/20200819-toulouse-becomes-first-french-city-to-mandate-masks-outdoors)
* **18 August**: France makes masks obligatory in offices – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/20200818-france-mulls-mandatory-masks-at-work-to-contain-spike-in-infections)
* **12 August**: PM wants mask obligation extended as far as possible throughout France – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/20200811-french-pm-warns-covid-19-infection-rate-headed-in-wrong-direction-public-becoming-careless)
* **10 August**: Masks mandatory in parts of Paris - [Connexion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/Masks-mandatory-in-Paris-highly-visited-areas-from-today-August-10)
* **5 August**: More French cities make masks mandatory – [Conexxion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/More-French-cities-such-as-Paris-and-Toulouse-make-masks-mandatory-amid-public-support-for-the-measure)
* **4 August**: Overview of mask obligation per area - [FranceTVInfo](https://www.francetvinfo.fr/sante/maladie/coronavirus/masques-sanitaires/carte-coronavirus-quelles-sont-les-villes-qui-imposent-le-port-du-masque-dans-les-rues-ou-sur-les-marches_4065159.html?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=2acb1c87a2-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_08_05_05_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-2acb1c87a2-190517313)

###### July

* **29 July**: PCR tests now available for everyone – [Conexxion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/Health/Covid-19-France-free-tests-for-all-as-clusters-investigated)
* **28 July**: Government advises companies to keep 10 week worth of stocks of masks – [Ouest France](https://www.ouest-france.fr/economie/masques-le-gouvernement-conseille-aux-entreprises-d-avoir-un-stock-de-10-semaines-6919789?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=334685b308-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_07_28_05_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-334685b308-190517313)
* **26 July**: PCR tests to be reimbursed even without prescription - [Conexxion](https://www.connexionfrance.com/French-news/France-makes-Covid-19-tests-free-for-all-as-cases-rise-again-and-ministers-try-to-avoid-reconfinement)
* **24 July**: France to test travellers from high risk countries – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/20200724-france-to-test-travellers-from-countries-where-coronavirus-circulating-widely)
* **21 July**: Face masks sent to 7 million high risk citizens – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/20200723-france-dispatches-free-covid-19-face-masks-to-7-million-amid-hardship-concerns)
* **14 July**: Masks in enclosed spaces to become mandatory – [France24](https://www.france24.com/en/20200714-macron-wearing-masks-in-enclosed-public-spaces-to-become-mandatory-in-france)

### Germany

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official German Website on COVID-19](https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/en/coronavirus.html) * [Official website on government actions](https://www.deutschland.de/en/news/german-federal-government-informs-about-the-corona-crisis) * Official RKI website with risk areas and test protocols - [RKI](https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Risikogebiete_neu.html;jsessionid=8A9B42D6472811DC64D5AD9D6D4C582E.internet102) | Health officials are maintaining stringent domestic restrictions until at least 31 January 2021. All residents in areas deemed COVID-19 hotspots are permitted to travel only within 15 km of their town unless they have a valid reason for traveling further. In addition, private gatherings are limited to two people, unless members of the same household ([Link](https://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.82doses per 100 people (11 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Germany’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.bundesgesundheitsministerium.de/fileadmin/Dateien/3_Downloads/C/Coronavirus/Impfstoff/German_National_COVID-19_Vaccination_Strategy_long_eng_061120.pdf) * **Doses Acquired:** 300 million *through the EU* |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Germany will have COVID curbs beyond January - health minister – [REUTERS](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-germany-spahn/germany-will-have-covid-curbs-beyond-january-health-minister-idUSKBN29I0TI)
* **12 January:** Germans vexed as coronavirus vaccine rollout lags – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/coronavirus-story-kiel/)
* **12 January:** Prioritization for vaccinations - "illegal and therefore void" – [WELT](https://www.welt.de/politik/deutschland/plus224170564/Verfassungsrechtler-Priorisierung-bei-Coronavirus-Impfungen-rechtswidrig.html)
* **12 January:** What's gone wrong with Germany's vaccine strategy? – [DW](https://www.thelocal.de/20210112/explained-what-has-gone-wrong-with-germanys-vaccine-strategy)
* **12 January:** German grab threatens EU Covid vaccine scheme – [The Times](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/german-grab-threatens-eu-covid-vaccine-scheme-qwj3g3m6r)
* **12 January:** Opinion: Germany and Bavaria must not mandate COVID vaccine – [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/opinion-germany-and-bavaria-must-not-mandate-covid-vaccine/a-56207298)
* **11 January:** Court hears 'blatant' COVID aid fraud case – [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/germany-court-hears-blatant-covid-aid-fraud-case/a-56194251)
* **10 January:** Scarce doses and empty vaccination centres: Germany's vaccine rollout headache – [REUTERS](https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-vaccines-germany/scarce-doses-and-empty-vaccination-centres-germanys-vaccine-rollout-headache-idUSL8N2JH3HE)
* **6 January:** Germany defends COVID vaccine rollout amid criticism it’s too slow – [euronews](https://www.euronews.com/2021/01/06/germany-defends-covid-vaccine-rollout-amid-criticism-it-s-too-slow)
* **6 January:** Germany Urges Patience With Covid Vaccine Rollout Under Fire – [Bloomberg](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-01-06/merkel-convenes-crisis-meeting-with-vaccine-rollout-under-fire)
* **5 January:** Russia and Germany discussing joint vaccine production, says Kremlin – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/russia-germany-angela-merkel-vladimir-putin-coronavirus-vaccine-production-sputnik-cooperation/)
* **4 January:** How Germany plans to improve Covid-19 vaccine roll-out in January – [DE](https://www.thelocal.de/20210104/explained-how-germany-plans-to-improve-covid-19-vaccine-roll-out-in-january)
* **2 January:** Germany's COVID vaccine procurement labeled a 'gross failure' – [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/germanys-covid-vaccine-procurement-labeled-a-gross-failure/a-56115322)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **15 December:** Germany may start COVID-19 vaccinations as soon as Christmas – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-germany-vaccinations/germany-may-start-covid-19-vaccinations-as-soon-as-christmas-minister-idUSS8N2G9010)
* **15 December:** Coronavirus: Germany hopeful of earlier EU vaccine approval – [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-germany-hopeful-of-earlier-eu-vaccine-approval/a-55946139)
* **9 December:** 'Made in Germany' containers set to deliver vaccines – [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/made-in-germany-containers-set-to-deliver-vaccines/av-55878745)
* **2 December**: Germany defies WHO’s call against Remdesivir as COVID therapy – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/coronavirus/news/germany-defies-whos-call-against-remdesivir-as-covid-therapy/)
* **1 December:** Germany to 'scrap free coronavirus tests after travel' – [The Local](https://www.thelocal.de/20201201/germany-to-scrap-free-coronavirus-tests-after-travel)

###### November

* **26 November:** Berlin plans six vast COVID-19 vaccination centres handling 4,000 people a day – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-germany-vaccines-idUSKBN2861VF)
* **16 November**: Jens Spahn wants to relieve hospitals after request for help - [Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/spahn-kliniken-corona-101.html)
* **3 November**: Hospitals are urged to postpone non-urgent operations - [DW](https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-german-hospitals-urged-to-postpone-non-critical-operations/a-55488200)
* **2 November**: The German Hospital Society fears collapse of healthcare system - [Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/coronavirus-intensivbetten-101.html)

###### October

* **29 October**: Intensive care workers warn for overload of patients - [Tagesspiegel](https://www.tagesspiegel.de/wissen/intensivmediziner-warnt-vor-ueberlastung-corona-lage-ist-absolut-besorgniserregend/26570024.html)
* **4 October**: Scholz urges caution – widespread use of rapid tests must be checked first - [Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/scholz-corona-101.html)

###### September

* **30 September**: Spahn foresees big role for rapid tests at home - [Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/coronavirus-spahn-105.html)
* **21 September**: Spahn announces new plans for Autumn including rapid tests and quarantine rules - [Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/spahn-corona-ambulanzen-101.html)
* **4 September**: Bavaria is facing issues with test capacity - [BR](https://www.br.de/nachrichten/bayern/test-panne-in-bayern-ergebnisse-bei-10-000-menschen-verspaetet,S9cFKcJ)
* **3 September**: German medical association advises to procure more flu vaccines - [Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/grippe-impfung-109.html)
* **2 September**: German hospitals to receive 4 billion euros to adjust healthcare facilities - [Tagesschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/kabinett-investitionen-krankenhaeuser-101.html)

###### August

* **26 August**: Health Minister Spahn wants to change corona strategy with an end to free testing and stricter quarantine - [Tageschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/corona-quarantaene-105.html)
* **24 August**: Health ministers agree on abolishing free tests for incoming travellers - [Tageschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/teststrategie-corona-spahn-101.html)
* **21 August**: Fear of shrink in German testing capacity - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/index.php/wissenschaft/deutsche-labore-melden-rueckstau-bei-auswertung-von-corona-tests)
* **6 August**: Corona testing is mandatory from 8 August - [Tageschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/corona-testpflicht-101.html)
* **5 August**: List of risk countries for which test is mandatory - [RKI](https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Risikogebiete_neu.html)

###### July

* **28 July**: Mandatory tests for visitors from high risk areas - [Tageschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/faq-reiserueckkehrer-103.html)
* **27 July**: Bayern region to test incoming people at the borders of the state - [Tageschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/corona-testpflicht-reise-103.html)
* **6 July**: Merkel rejects the abolition of the mask requirement - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/index.php/gesundheitspolitik/merkel-lehnt-abschaffung-der-maskenpflicht-ab)

###### June

* **30 June**: Nation-wide antibody study started - [SWR](https://www.swr.de/swraktuell/baden-wuerttemberg/tuebingen/antikoerperstudie-reutlingen-startet-100.html)
* **18 June**: Only few healthcare institutes test large-scale, while that would help to contain virus - [Tageschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/investigativ/ndr/corona-med-personal-101.html)
* **10 June**: Letter co-signed by Merkel discusses PPE shortages regarding future EU pandemic preparedness - [Tageschau](https://www.tagesschau.de/ausland/merkel-brief-eu-101.html)

###### May

* **7 May**: Clinics in Bremen are operating again - [BUB](https://www.butenunbinnen.de/nachrichten/gesellschaft/kliniken-operieren-wieder-100.html)
* **5 May**: Hospitals returning to normal care in Germany- [Hessenschau](https://www.hessenschau.de/gesellschaft/wieder-mehr-planbare-ops-kliniken-auf-dem-langen-weg-zurueck-zur-normalitaet-,corona-kliniken-op-100.html)
* **2 May**: Hospitals in Berlin want to resume normal care – [RBB24](https://www.rbb24.de/panorama/thema/2020/coronavirus/beitraege_neu/2020/05/berlin-krankenhaeuser-oeffnung-planbare-operationen-einnahmen.html)

### Greece

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website](https://www.moh.gov.gr/articles/ministry/grafeio-typoy/press-releases/6809-anakoinwsh-5-newn-kroysmatwn-sars-cov-2) * Overview of protocols for testing for travellers to Greece – [Greek Government](https://travel.gov.gr/#/) | Government reimposes lockdown, tightens domestic coronavirus-related restrictions 3 January 2021 until 18 January 2021 ([Link](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.54doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Greece’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.keeptalkinggreece.com/2020/11/18/greece-vaccination-covid-19-national-plan/) * **Doses Acquired:** 25 million (Link) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Moderna Inc’s Covid-19 vaccine arrives in Greece – [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/261168/article/ekathimerini/news/moderna-incs-covid-19-vaccine-arrives-in-greece)
* **12 January:** As Greece touts EU vaccine passports, privacy champions warn of risks – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/coronavirus-covid-vaccine-passports-pose-risk-to-privacy-experts-warn/)
* **12 January:** EU leaders to discuss Greek PM’s proposal for Covid ‘vaccination certificate’ – [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/261132/article/ekathimerini/news/eu-leaders-to-discuss-greek-pms-proposal-for-covid-vaccination-certificate)
* **12 January:** Adopt EU-wide vaccine certificate, suggests Greek PM – [The Telegraph](https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2021/01/12/travel-news-holiday-spring-quarantine-flights-passport-vaccine/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **29 December:** Backlash after Greek government officials get coronavirus jabs before doctors – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/greece-coronavirus-vaccine-backlash-government-officials-before-doctors/)
* **16 December:** Despite COVID-19, Greece makes strides on high tech ambitions – [Aljazeera](https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2020/12/16/despite-covid-greece-makes-strides-toward-high-tech-ambitions)
* **2 December**: Greece develops domestically produced rapid tests for COVID-19 – [GCT](https://greekcitytimes.com/2020/12/01/greece-rapid-covid-10-tests/)
* **1 December**: Prosecutor probe into ‘Greek statistics’ on COVID-19 – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/news/prosecutor-probe-into-greek-statistics-on-covid-19/)

###### November

* **20 November:** Greece seizes beds from private hospitals as COVID-19 gets out of control – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/coronavirus/news/greece-seizes-beds-from-private-hospitals-as-covid-19-gets-out-of-control/)
* **16 November**: ICU capacity almost saturated - [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/259216/article/ekathimerini/news/covid-19-icus-close-to-80-full-as-cases-keep-rising)
* **1 November**: Government limits amount of scheduled surgeries - [Ethnos](https://www.ethnos.gr/ygeia/131150_ypoyrgeio-ygeias-apantisi-se-syriza-gia-koyrema-sta-taktika-heiroyrgeia)

###### October

* **5 October**: Masks to be mandatory in education - [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/257686/article/ekathimerini/news/universities-reopen-on-monday-with-mandatory-mask-use)

###### September

* **23 September**: COVID-19 putting pressure on ICU departments - [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/257285/article/ekathimerini/news/covid-19-putting-pressure-on-icu-departments)

###### August

* **24 August**: Masks mandatory when schools reopen - [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/256171/article/ekathimerini/news/teachers-and-students-to-wear-masks-when-schools-reopen-september-7)

###### July

* **28 July**: Greece to make masks compulsory in more public spaces – [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/255189/article/ekathimerini/news/coronavirus-masks-to-be-compulsory-at-more-indoor-public-spaces-in-greece)

###### June

* **24 June**: First drive-through test centre established in Greece - [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/254001/article/ekathimerini/news/first-drive-through-center-for-covid-tests-in-xanthi)

###### May

* **19 May**: Programme initiated to test people cut off from medical services - [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/252816/article/ekathimerini/news/health-agency-sending-coronavirus-testing-teams-to-remote-islands)
* **18 May**: Authorities seize almost a million poor quality masks in Athens Airport - [Ekathimerini](https://www.ekathimerini.com/252775/article/ekathimerini/news/authorities-seize-850000-poor-quality-masks-at-athens-airport)

### Hungary

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official HU Website](https://koronavirus.gov.hu/) (HU/ENG) * [Live updates from the government](http://abouthungary.hu/news-in-brief/coronavirus-heres-the-latest/) * Overview of travel protocols for entering Hungary – [About Hungary](http://abouthungary.hu/news-in-brief/here-are-the-new-international-travel-restrictions-relating-to-countries-classified-as-green-yellow-and-red/) | Health officials in Hungary have extended the nation's domestic COVID-19 restrictions until at least 1 February 2021 due to consistently high infection rates ([Link](https://koronavirus.gov.hu/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.90doses per 100 people (13 January 2021) * **Strategy:** *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 12 million ([Link](https://www.euronews.com/2020/11/23/coronavirus-hungary-to-test-russian-covid-19-vaccine)) different vaccines |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **4 January:** Hungary cools on Russian COVID jab, scolds EU on vaccines – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/health-consumers/news/hungary-cools-on-russian-covid-jab-scolds-eu-on-vaccines/)

##### **2020**

###### November

* **30 November:** Commission: Hungary can use Russian coronavirus vaccine but will be liable – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/commission-hungary-can-use-russian-coronavirus-vax-but-will-be-liable/)
* **23 November**: Hungarian foreign minister says country will test Russian vaccine – [EuroNews](https://www.euronews.com/2020/11/23/coronavirus-hungary-to-test-russian-covid-19-vaccine)
* **19 November**: Tensions grow over whether Budapest plans to use Sputnik V vaccine even though it does not have EU regulatory approval – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-eu-hungary-idUSKBN27Z1H4)
* **12 November**: Masks to be mandatory in public places – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/coronavirus-hungary-mandatory-mask-wearing-public-places-list/)
* **6 November**: Elective surgeries to be postponed – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/coronavirus-chief-medical-officer-elective-surgeries-suspended-from-friday/)

###### October

* **21 October**: New type of rapid corona tests already in use by paramedics – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/new-type-of-rapid-coronavirus-tests-already-in-use-by-paramedics/)
* **21 October**: Government makes free flu shot available to population – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/orban-free-flu-shot-available-hungary/)
* **5 October**: More blood transfusion needed for plasma – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/coronavirus-blood-transfusion-service-more-blood-plasma-donors/)

###### September

* **19 September**: Cap on PCR test prices receives criticism from Socialists in Hungary – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/coronavirus-socialists-mszp-government-pcr-test-pricing-korozs/)
* **9 September**: Corruption accusations due to prices paid for ventilators – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/dk-hungary-ventilators-price-slovakia/)
* **7 September**: Hospitals instructed to prepare beds for resurgence of Covid-19 – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/hospitals-instructed-reserve-beds-amid-resurgence-new-spike-covid-19-kasler/)

###### August

* **24 August:** Only urgent surgeries performed due to blood shortages – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/hungary-blood-shortage-urgent-surgeries/)

###### June

* **29 June**: National Chief Medical Officer provides strict hospital instructions for corona test kits – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/coronavirus-chief-medical-officer-denies-allegations-about-hospitals-cutting-number-of-tests/)
* **8 June**: Already 51,000 tests carried out in national mass testing strategy – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/merkely-51000-tests-completed-national-screening-programme/)

###### May

* **15 May**: Elective interventions to resume from 18 May - [24](https://24.hu/belfold/2020/05/15/koronavirus-operativ-torzs-korhazi-agyak/)
* **12 May**: Two hospitals to treat corona patients so other hospitals can resume normal activities – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/operative-board-coronavirus-patients-budapest-hospitals/)
* **7 May**: Dental services to resume – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/hungary-denstist-services-resume/)
* **4 May**: Hungary restarts regular health services – [Hungary Today](https://hungarytoday.hu/hungary-restarts-regular-health-services-amid-strict-hygiene-regulations/)

### Ireland

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website on COVID-19 situation](https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/health/covid19/public_health_measures_for_covid19.html) * Overview of travel protocols to Ireland – [Irish Government](https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/8868e-view-the-covid-19-travel-advice-list/) * [Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021: Plan for Living with COVID-19](https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/resilience-recovery-2020-2021-plan-for-living-with-covid-19/) | Authorities to tighten COVID-related domestic restrictions from 31 December 2020 ([Link](https://www.gov.ie/en/campaigns/c36c85-covid-19-coronavirus/)) | * **Start date:** 30 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.71doses per 100 people (11 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Ireland’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/bf337-covid-19-vaccination-strategy-and-implementation-plan/) * **Doses Acquired:** 14.355 million ([Link](https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/bf337-covid-19-vaccination-strategy-and-implementation-plan/)) AstraZeneca (3.3 million), Sanofi/GSK (3.3), J&J (2.475), Moderna (0.88), Pfizer/BioNTech (2.2) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Administrators getting Covid vaccine before GPs, says doctor – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/administrators-getting-covid-vaccine-before-gps-says-doctor-1.4456717)
* **8 January:** Opposition TDs concerned at 'lack of detail' in vaccination plan – [RTE](https://www.rte.ie/news/coronavirus/2021/0108/1188486-vaccine-ireland/)
* **5 January:** All travellers into State will have to provide negative PCR test – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/covid-19-all-travellers-into-state-will-have-to-provide-negative-pcr-test-1.4450888)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **16 December:** Covid-19: All nursing home residents, staff could be vaccinated by February, taskforce head says – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/covid-19-all-nursing-home-residents-staff-could-be-vaccinated-by-february-taskforce-head-says-1.4438391)
* **16 December:** North’s Covid crisis could repeat in State if situation allowed ‘go out of control’ Taoiseach – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/north-s-covid-crisis-could-repeat-in-state-if-situation-allowed-go-out-of-control-taoiseach-1.4438268)
* **15 December:** Covid-19: Queues of ambulances at Antrim hospital as North’s health service comes under pressure – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/covid-19-queues-of-ambulances-at-antrim-hospital-as-north-s-health-service-comes-under-pressure-1.4437519)
* **1 December**: Ireland to sign up for fifth Covid-19 vaccine – [Irish Post](https://www.irishpost.com/news/ireland-to-sign-up-for-fifth-covid-19-vaccine-199050)

###### November

* **23 November**: Irish projects using space technology now deployed to respond to COVID-19 – [RTE](https://www.rte.ie/news/business/2020/1123/1179948-space-technology/)
* **12 November**: At-home corona tests launched in Ireland – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/coronavirus/letsgetchecked-launches-at-home-covid-19-tests-in-ireland-1.4406626)

###### October

* **29 October**: HSE waiting for sanction from Health Department to resume full-scale PPE purchases – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/coronavirus/hse-waiting-for-department-sanction-to-resume-ppe-purchases-1.4394112)
* **15 October**: Hospitals are coping but cancelling some elective surgeries – [Irish Mirror](https://www.irishmirror.ie/news/irish-news/hospitals-cancel-elective-procedures-brace-22854235)

###### September

* **21 September**: HSE announces deal with German lab to boost testing capacity – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/struggling-hse-agrees-deal-with-german-lab-to-boost-covid-19-testing-capacity-1.4359975)

###### August

* **26 August**: New model for testing and tracing being finalised – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/covid-19-hospital-surge-expected-in-very-difficult-period-ahead-1.4338817)
* **24 August**: Schools may get Covid testing capacity at expense of other settings – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/coronavirus/schools-may-get-covid-19-testing-capacity-at-expense-of-other-settings-1.4337068)
* **10 August**: Face masks mandatory in shops and other indoor settings – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/face-coverings-now-mandatory-in-shops-and-other-indoor-settings-1.4326434)
* **6 August**: Cost of COVID-19 testing to be around 416 million euros - [Independent](https://www.independent.ie/world-news/coronavirus/cost-of-covid-19-testing-could-hit-416m-this-year-39408125.html)

###### June

* **30 June**: Just one in seven of hospital staff wears face mask - [Independent](https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/health/just-one-in-seven-staff-wearing-face-masks-at-hospital-39327208.html)
* **10 June**: PPE stockpiled in case of second wave – [Iris Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/ppe-stockpiled-in-case-of-second-wave-of-covid-19-says-varadkar-1.4275524)

###### May

* **23 May**: New rules for elective surgery – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/elective-surgery-patients-must-cocoon-for-7-14-days-before-procedure-1.4260424)
* **14 May**: Ireland to introduce new testing strategy with testing and tracing within three days – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/coronavirus-hse-says-new-three-day-target-for-testing-and-tracing-to-be-introduced-1.4253201)
* **13 May**: Irish mask manufacturing to start this week – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/ireland/irish-news/irish-mask-manufacturing-due-to-start-this-weekend-1.4251951)
* **7 May**: Doctors have been forced to cancel private hospital procedures – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/doctors-claim-they-have-been-forced-to-cancel-private-hospital-procedures-1.4247373)
* **6 May**: Ban on non-Covid-related surgery is lifted - [Independent](https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/ban-on-non-covid-related-surgery-is-lifted-as-health-chiefs-widen-criteria-for-virus-testing-39184472.html)
* **6 May**: Testing criteria broadened as test capacity increases – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/coronavirus-testing-criteria-broadened-to-include-people-with-one-symptom-1.4246306)

### Italy

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website on the coronavirus](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/homeNuovoCoronavirus.jsp?lingua=english) * Overview of travel protocols in Italy - [Esteri](https://www.esteri.it/mae/en/ministero/normativaonline/decreto-iorestoacasa-domande-frequenti/focus-cittadini-italiani-in-rientro-dall-estero-e-cittadini-stranieri-in-italia.html) | Numerous anti-COVID-19 measures remain in effect nationwide. State of emergency will remain in effect until end of April ([Link](http://www.governo.it/it/articolo/domande-frequenti-sulle-misure-adottate-dal-governo/15638?fbclid=IwAR1ozgQMyaSgVH2mM0rdvYs9vGIfGRsxF46yO8qsm-t-EvMc6f2Hu-_MlkQ#zone)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 1.32doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Italy’s Vaccination Strategy](http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/dettaglioNotizieNuovoCoronavirus.jsp?lingua=english&menu=notizie&p=dalministero&id=5208) * **Doses Acquired:** 202 million ([Link](https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/italy-unveils-covid-vaccination-plan-202-mn-doses-to-be-given-early-2021-120120300067_1.html)): AstraZeneca (40.38 million), J&J (53.84), Sanofi (40.38), Pfizer/BNT, CureVac (30.285), Moderna (10.768) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Italy to extend COVID state of emergency to end of April – [REUTERS](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-italy-emergency/italy-to-extend-covid-state-of-emergency-to-end-of-april-idUSKBN29I1L4)
* **12 January:** Italy’s health workers head to the front of the queue for COVID jab – [euronews](https://www.euronews.com/2021/01/12/italy-s-vaccine-rollout-begins-with-jabs-for-health-workers)
* **6 January:** How is Italy's Covid-19 vaccine rollout going? – [IT](https://www.thelocal.it/20210106/how-is-italys-covid-19-vaccination-rollout-going)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **16 December:** 'Light at the end of the tunnel': Italy approves plan to begin Covid vaccinations in January – [The Local](https://www.thelocal.it/20201216/light-at-the-end-of-the-tunnel-italy-approves-plan-to-begin-covid-vaccinations-in-january)
* **3 December**: Italian PM announces Christmas travel restrictions under new emergency decree – [The Local](https://www.thelocal.it/20201203/italian-pm-announces-christmas-restrictions-under-new-decree)

###### November

* **30 November**: Italian government approves new Covid-19 financial aid package – [The Local](https://www.thelocal.it/20201130/italian-government-approves-new-covid-19-aid-package)
* **24 November**: Italy to get AstraZeneca COVID shots in early 2021, 70 million by mid-year – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-italy-vaccine/update-1-italy-to-get-astrazeneca-covid-shots-in-early-2021-70-million-by-mid-year-idUSL1N2IA0X4)
* **16 November:** COVID-19 Minister denies pressure on ICUs - [ANSA](https://www.ansa.it/english/news/2020/11/16/icus-not-under-pressure-says-arcuri_edb535e1-c687-4385-abca-740dccb83683.html)
* **7 November**: Elective operations and post-surgery intensive care put on hold in region Veneto – [Il Gazzettino](https://www.ilgazzettino.it/nordest/venezia/emergenza_sanitaria_veneto_sospese_visite_interventi-5571989.html)
* **5 November**: Postponement of elective operations in Lombardy – [Brescia Today](https://www.bresciatoday.it/attualita/coronavirus/ospedali-visite.html)
* **3 November**: Postponement of elective surgeries in Bologna – [Corriere di Bologna](https://corrieredibologna.corriere.it/bologna/cronaca/20_novembre_03/bologna-ridotti-interventi-non-urgenti-ospedali-bussano-privati-779eae12-1dab-11eb-93a9-91f4105bfae3.shtml)
* **3 November**: [New decree](https://www.trovanorme.salute.gov.it/norme/dettaglioAtto?id=76993) containing further stringent measures to counter the spread of the new coronavirus. The decree identifies **three main areas**, corresponding to three risk scenarios, for which modular measures are envisaged.

###### October

* **18 October**: Medical and surgical scheduled appointments postponed in Campania region – [La Stampa](https://www.lastampa.it/cronaca/2020/10/18/news/contagi-record-in-campania-da-oggi-stop-ai-ricoveri-programmati-ok-per-urgenze-e-prestazioni-oncologiche-1.39432028)
* **17 October**: Data available on Italian ICU capacity per region - [SKY](https://tg24.sky.it/cronaca/2020/10/17/covid-terapie-intensive-italia#00)

###### September

* **9 September**: Italy produces fast saliva test - [ANSA](https://www.ansa.it/english/news/2020/09/09/italy-makes-covid-super-fast-saliva-test_3a7d44d0-9825-41f8-a1f6-d9381604668e.html)

###### August

* **16 August**: Italy makes masks mandatory at night - [Euronews](https://www.euronews.com/2020/08/16/coronavirus-world-health-organization-reports-daily-record-number-of-covid-19-cases)
* **11 August**: New rapid tests may be used on airport arrivals - [ANSA](https://www.ansa.it/english/news/2020/08/11/covid-new-rapid-tests-may-be-used-on-arrivals-from-abroad_ae86a2eb-1f47-43ab-9085-0cff5128e238.html)
* **6 August**: Government to extend mask obligation - [ANSA](https://www.ansa.it/english/news/2020/08/06/govt-set-to-extend-obligation-to-wear-facemasks_baf56546-fec9-4ec8-93ca-c2847b68164b.html)

###### May

* **25 May**: Italy starts antibody tests on 150,000 people - [MedinLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/italien-startet-antikoerpertests-bei-150000-menschen)
* **14 May**: 3.25 billion funds for Italian national health service - [ANSA](https://www.ansa.it/english/news/2020/05/14/health-service-getting-3.25-bn-in-relaunch-decree-speranza_30a33271-a508-4633-8032-c14de8efccd7.html)
* **12 May**: Face masks to stay at 61 cents - [ANSA](https://www.ansa.it/english/news/2020/05/12/facemask-price-to-stay-61-cents-arcuri-says-amid-row-4_7534ac7c-d3d5-4e4e-8da8-794ac93f93b4.html)
* **6 May**: Stocks of facemasks almost run out - [ANSA](https://www.ansa.it/english/news/2020/05/06/facemask-stocks-almost-finished-federdistribuzione-5_62a4fadb-66f6-4b51-8e55-00e45ab20868.html)

### Latvia

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website](http://www.vm.gov.lv/lv/aktualitates/koronavirusa_izraisita_slimiba_covid19/) (LV & ENG) * Overview of travel protocol for Latvia – [Latvian Government](https://www.mfa.gov.lv/en/consular-information/news/66019-emergency-situation-in-latvia-to-restrict-the-spread-of-covid-19) * [State of Emergency laws in English](https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/318517-regarding-declaration-of-the-emergency-situation) | Authorities in Latvia have extended measures imposed to combat the spread of COVID-19 until at least 25 January 2021; restrictive measures could be further extended for the duration of the state of emergency currently scheduled to expire 7 February 2021 ([Link](https://www.mk.gov.lv/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.52doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Latvia’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.vm.gov.lv/lv/jaunums/gatavs-detalizets-plans-vakcinacijai-pret-covid-19-latvija?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=34799adbe1-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_12_14_06_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-34799adbe1-190698624) * **Doses Acquired:** 139,000 thousand *(first doses from strategy for January*): Pfizer/ BioNTech (12,000 thousand), AstraZeneca (127,000 thousand) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **12 January:** Covid-19 vaccination rate exceeds 1 000 people a day in Latvia – [BNN](https://bnn-news.com/covid-19-vaccination-rate-exceeds-1-000-people-a-day-in-latvia-220786)
* **11 January:** Latvia’s Healthcare Minister proposes composing a Covid-19 vaccination supervisory council – [BNN](https://bnn-news.com/latvias-healthcare-minister-proposes-composing-a-covid-19-vaccination-supervisory-council-220758)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **14 December:** The number of Covid-19 patients in hospitals will exceed 1,000 and there will be overload, warns Perevoshchikov – [DELFI](https://www.delfi.lv/news/national/politics/covid-19-pacientu-skaits-slimnicas-parsniegs-1000-un-bus-parslodze-bridina-perevoscikovs.d?id=52755301)
* **8 December:** First-ever contact-free COVID testing station set up in Latvia – [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/first-ever-contact-free-covid-testing-station-set-up-in-latvia.a384622/)

###### November

* **11 November**: New stricter COVID-19 testing procedure in place - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/queues-for-covid-19-tests-have-shrunk-in-latvia.a381282/)

###### October

* **28 October**: Latvia’s hospitals worry about possible overload - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/latvias-hospitals-worry-about-possible-overload.a379571/)
* **21 October**: Government intends to change COVID-19 testing procedures - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/health-ministry-mulls-change-in-covid-19-testing-order-in-latvia.a378758/)
* **21 October**: Failure to wear masks to be penalized in Latvia - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/society/failure-to-wear-masks-to-be-penalized-in-latvia.a378732/)
* **5 October**: Face masks to be mandatory on public transport from Wednesday - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/face-masks-to-be-mandatory-on-public-transport-starting-wednesday-in-latvia.a376815/)

###### August

* **26 August**: Government announces to introduce more mask requirements - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/karins-more-widespread-use-of-face-masks-will-likely-be-needed-in-latvia.a371841/)

###### July

* **14 July**: Latvian government grants 3.2 million to COVID-19 medical costs - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/government-grants-32-million-to-covid-19-medical-costs.a367137/)

###### June

* **30 June**: Face masks not obligatory in public transport anymore - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/government-agrees-to-drop-face-coverings-on-public-transport.a365460/)
* **8 June**: Face mask obligation to remain in many places after state of emergency ends - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/some-restrictions-to-remain-says-health-minister-of-latvia.a362877/)
* **3 June**: All healthcare services returned to normal - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/health/access-to-healthcare-services-returning-to-normal.a362415/)

###### May

* **21 May**: From June 3, all health services will be restored - [Diena](https://www.diena.lv/raksts/latvija/zinas/no-3.junija-atjaunos-visus-veselibas-aprupes-pakalpojumus-14241611)
* **18 May**: No more on-site COVID-19 tests at airports and ports - [LSM](https://eng.lsm.lv/article/economy/transport/no-more-on-site-covid-19-tests-at-airport-and-port.a360244/)
* **12 May**: More planned health care services to resume - [Diena](https://www.diena.lv/raksts/latvija/zinas/atsaks-sniegt-planveida-veselibas-aprupes-pakalpojumus-14241045)

### Lithuania

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official government website](https://sam.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/koronavirusas) (LT & ENG) * [COVID-19 official website](http://lrv.lt/lt/aktuali-informacija/informacija-del-naujojo-koronaviruso/svarbiausia-informacija) (LT and ENG) * Overview travel protocol for Lithuania – [Lithuanian Government](https://www.govilnius.lt/media-news/important-information-regarding-the-coronavirus) | Health officials extend nationwide domestic coronavirus disease-related measures until at least 31 January 2021 ([Link](http://koronastop.lrv.lt/en/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 1.00doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 1.24 million ([Link](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/lithuania-decides-to-buy-coronavirus-vaccines-from-biontech-and-pfizer.d?id=85767665)) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **5 January:** None of EU countries happy with coronavirus vaccine supply – Lithuanian minister – [BT](https://www.baltictimes.com/none_of_eu_countries_happy_with_coronavirus_vaccine_supply___lithuanian_minister/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **13 December:** Lithuania imposes nationwide lockdown – [LRT](https://www.lrt.lt/en/news-in-english/19/1296887/lithuania-imposes-nationwide-lockdown-extends-limits-on-movement)

###### November

* **25 November**: Lithuania extends pandemic lockdown as COVID cases surge on – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/healthcare-coronavirus-lithuania/lithuania-extends-pandemic-lockdown-as-covid-cases-surge-on-idUSL8N2IB338)

###### October

* **28 October**: In multiple regions face masks are mandatory in public spaces - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/quarantine-comes-into-force-in-eight-more-municipalities.d?id=85594831)

###### September

* **21 September**: Lithuania launches flu vaccination campaign - [SAM](https://sam.lrv.lt/lt/naujienos/lietuva-pasieke-pirmosios-gripo-vakcinos-siuntos?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=0769c77247-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_09_22_05_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-0769c77247-190517313)
* **21 September**: Mandatory testing for patients on admission to hospital - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/mandatory-testing-for-all-new-hospital-patients-ordered.d?id=85292997)

###### August

* **20 August**: Masks to be worn at all outdoor events - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/lifestyle/masks-to-be-worn-at-all-outdoor-events-as-of-friday.d?id=85046681)
* **20 August**: Lithuania invests 50 million in hospitals for handling the COVID-19 pandemic - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/hospitals-get-over-eur-50-mln-for-fight-against-covid-19.d?id=85091339)

###### July

* **13 July**: Face masks to become mandatory if cases spike - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/minister-facemasks-to-become-mandatory-again-if-coronavirus-cases-spike.d?id=84755251)

###### June

* **23 June**: Public procurement of PPE delayed due to wrong information about national stocks - [DELFI](https://www.delfi.lt/news/daily/lithuania/oficiali-isvada-ligonines-delse-pirkti-apsaugos-priemones-nes-buvo-tikinama-kad-ju-yra-valstybes-rezerve.d?id=84602423)
* **22 June**: Intersurgical plans to produce respirators for export - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/business/intersurgical-plans-to-produce-respirators-for-exports.d?id=84592061)

###### May

* **24 May**: Preventive coronavirus testing strategy to be unveiled next week - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/preventive-coronavirus-testing-strategy-to-be-unveiled-next-week.d?id=84353709)
* **23 May:** Lithuania lifts restrictions on anti-coronavirus product sales - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/business/lithuania-lifts-restrictions-on-anti-coronavirus-product-sales.d?id=84341229)
* **18 May**: Dental services to be resumed - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/kindergartens-restaurants-and-gyms-reopen.d?id=84305689)
* **13 May**: Mask no longer mandatory in open spaces - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/lockdown-easing-wearing-face-masks-no-longer-mandatory-in-open-spaces.d?id=84272027)
* **4 May**: Random testing campaign has started - [DELFI](https://en.delfi.lt/politics/random-testing-starts-results-from-9-000-people.d?id=84194035)

### Luxemburg

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Luxembourg exit plan timeline](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1503049.html) * [Official website](https://msan.gouvernement.lu/en/dossiers/2020/corona-virus.html) and Health care measures * [Official website](https://meco.gouvernement.lu/en/dossiers/2020/coronoavirus-entreprises.html) and Economic measures | Authorities plan to ease some domestic restrictions associated with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic from 11 January 2021 ([Link](https://covid19.public.lu/en.html)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.31doses per 100 people (11 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  [Luxemburg’s Vaccination Strategy](https://covid19.public.lu/en/health-protection/vaccination.html) * **Doses Acquired:** 420,000 ([Link](https://delano.lu/d/detail/news/420000-doses-vaccine-reserved-lux/211786)) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Slow start to vaccination campaign, 60% of December deliveries still not administered – [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1645283.html)
* **11 January:** Luxembourg: first EU Member State to be supplied with Moderna vaccine – [GouvernementLU](https://msan.gouvernement.lu/en/actualites.gouvernement%2Ben%2Bactualites%2Btoutes_actualites%2Bcommuniques%2B2021%2B01-janvier%2B11-vaccin-moderna.html)
* **9 January:** Luxembourg to receive first Moderna doses on Monday – [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1642687.html)

##### **2020**

###### November

* **28 November**: Coronavirus situation remains stable in Luxembourg – [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1621291.html)
* **4 November**: Emergency services also affected by staff shortages - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1607478.html)

###### October

* **28 October**: Hospitals risk being overwhelmed by Covid patients - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1603374.html)
* **2 October**: Free corona test for travellers - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1588800.html)

###### August

* **20 August**: FFP2 masks withdrawn for non-compliance - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1567623.html)
* **12 August**: Discussions on mandatory test for returning travellers ongoing - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1563470.html)
* **6 August**: No false negatives or positives in testing campaign - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1560728.html)

###### June

* **20 June**: Hospitals set up a non-profit organisation to manage Luxembourg’s medical supplies - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1537245.html)
* **18 June**: Large scale testing plan starting to gain momentum - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1536127.html)
* **5 June**: Temporary care centres for corona close on Monday - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1529681.html)
* **3 June**: Luxembourg hospitals face difficulties returning to ‘normal’ - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1528319.html)

###### May

* **25 May**: Testing not in drive-through form anymore - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1523719.html)
* **19 May**: Luxembourgish testing capacity is slowly rising – [L’essentiel](http://www.lessentiel.lu/de/luxemburg/story/luxemburger-massentest-lauft-schleppend-an-26938119)
* **14 May**: 27 Million masks distributed to municipalities - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1518163.html)
* **14 May**: New testing strategy in full capacity from June 1 - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1517843.html)
* **13 May**: Large scale testing plan encounters logistical issues - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1516916.html)
* **4 May**: Phase 2 of exit strategy announced, everyone to receive 50 face masks - [RTL](https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1512424.html)

### Malta

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official Information on COVID-19](https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/health-promotion/Pages/Novel-coronavirus.aspx) * Overview of travel protocol for Malta - [VisitMalta](https://www.visitmalta.com/en/covid-19) | Authorities are maintaining some domestic restrictions through mid-January ([Link](https://deputyprimeminister.gov.mt/en/health-promotion/covid-19/Pages/landing-page.aspx)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.32doses per 100 people (3 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  [Malta’s Vaccination Strategy](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/healthcare-workers-over-85s-to-receive-covid-19-vaccine-in-early.837314) * **Doses Acquired:** *N/A* |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **4 January:** Doctors disappointed at low target of COVID-19 vaccination – [MT](https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/news/national/106805/doctors_disappointed_at_low_target_of_covid19_vaccination#.X_XcDdhKiUl)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **15 December:** Malta expects to start COVID-19 vaccinations by year's end – [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/eu-moves-vaccine-approval-meeting-to-december-21.839111)
* **4 December:** Vaccine expected in Malta by first week of January – [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/vaccine-expected-in-malta-by-first-week-of-january.836474)
* **2 December**: Bernard Grech calls for detailed COVID-19 vaccine strategy for Malta – [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/bernard-grech-calls-for-detailed-covid-19-vaccine-strategy-for-malta.836054)

###### November

* **23 November**: Rapid COVID-19 tests introduced in Malta recently cannot be sold over the counter – [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/no-over-counter-sales-of-covid-19-rapid-tests.833749)
* **18 November**: Second batch of flu vaccines expected before December as first batch ran out - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/fearne-says-second-flu-vaccine-batch-before-december.832612)
* **8 November**: Shadow health minister advocates for testing whole population - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/rapid-test-the-whole-country-pn-health-spokemans-suggestion-to-fearne.830455)

###### October

* **28 October**: Malta to carry out 1,000 daily rapid tests as two new centres open - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/two-new-swabbing-centres-to-open.827806)
* **27 October**: Non-essential surgeries to be postponed - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/several-non-emergency-surgeries-to-be-postponed-to-help-fight-covid-19.827578)
* **27 October**: Health Minister explains hierarchy of COVID-19 testing - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/health-minister-explains-hierarchy-of-covid-19-testing.827662)
* **26 October**: Health services will soon hit critical point - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/doctors-warn-health-services-will-soon-hit-a-critical-point.827314)
* **21 October**: Use of visors without masks discouraged by health authorities - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/use-of-visors-without-masks-discouraged-by-health-authorities.826273)
* **2 October**: Malta spent 8.5 million euros on COVID-19 testing in first six months of 2020 - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/85m-spent-on-covid-19-testing-in-the-first-six-months-of-this-year.821554)
* **1 October**: Non-urgent surgery postponed to ease pressure on ICU - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/non-urgent-surgery-postponed-to-ease-pressure-on-itu-nurses-union.821383)

###### June

* **9 June**: Malta spending 100 million more than planned on healthcare - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/malta-spending-100-million-more-than-planned-on-healthcare-in-2020.797391)

###### May

* **26 May**: Medical authorities planning widespread testing for coronavirus immunity - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/medical-authorities-planning-widespread-testing-for-coronavirus.794351)
* **18 May**: Mater Dei resuming outpatient appointments - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/mater-dei-is-resuming-its-outpatient-appointments.792626)
* **4 May**: Conflict on face mask price caps solved - [ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/face-mask-pricing-talks-continue-though-a-deal-is-close.789965)
* **4 May**: Nurses warn that patients are not being handed PPE -[ToM](https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/nurses-threaten-action-unless-patients-given-masks.789899)

### Netherlands

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Dutch info hub on actions related to medical equipment](https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/coronavirus-covid-19/zorg/beschermingsmiddelen) * Overview of travel protocol for the Netherlands - [Rijksoverheid](https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/coronavirus-covid-19/reizen-en-op-vakantie-gaan/buitenlandse-toeristen-naar-nederland) * [Official website on national measures](https://www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/tackling-new-coronavirus-in-the-netherlands) | Authorities in the Netherlands have extended the nationwide domestic lockdown that had been implemented as part of efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19. The lockdown was initially slated to expire on 19 January 2021 but will now remain in force until 9 February 2021 ([Link](https://www.government.nl/)) | * **Start date:** 8 January 2021 * **Doses administered:** 0.26 doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  [Dutch](https://www.gezondheidsraad.nl/) Health Agency’s [Vaccine Strategy](https://www.gezondheidsraad.nl/documenten/adviezen/2020/11/19/strategieen-voor-covid-19-vaccinatie) (in Dutch) * **Doses Acquired:** 50.9 million ([Link](https://nltimes.nl/2020/11/20/coronavirus-vaccination-strategy-confirmed-dutch-government)) AstraZeneca (11.7 million), Pfizer/BioNTech (7.8), Moderna (3.1), Janssen (7.8), Curevac (8.8), Sanofi (11.7) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Netherlands Covid vaccination plans update on Jan. 13; When can you can get vaccinated? – [NL Times](https://nltimes.nl/2021/01/13/netherlands-covid-vaccination-plans-update-jan-13-can-can-get-vaccinated)
* **6 January:** Netherlands becomes last EU country to start coronavirus vaccinations – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/148337/netherlands-becomes-last-eu-country-to-start-coronavirus-vaccinations-european-union-health-care-dutch-government-prime-minister-mark-rutte-pfizer-biontech-medicines-agency-ema/)
* **5 January:** Back-of-the-pack Dutch under fire for slow coronavirus vaccine rollout – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/netherlands-coronavirus-vaccination-slow-start-mark-rutte-hugo-de-jonge/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* 9 December: Netherlands Makes COVID-19 Test Results Compulsory for Arrivals From December 15 – [Schengenvisainfo](https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/news/netherlands-makes-covid-19-test-results-compulsory-for-arrivals-from-december-15/)
* **1 December**: Netherlands makes face masks mandatory indoors – [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-55143938)
* **1 December**: Netherlands aims to start Covid-19 vaccinations by early January – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/143440/netherlands-aims-to-start-covid-19-vaccinations-by-early-january-dutch-health-minister-hugo-de-jonge-european-medicines-agency-ema-ecdc/)

###### November

* **16 November**: ECDC head underlines that mass testing would be important to prevent third wave - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2356808-directeur-europees-rivm-na-tweede-golf-massatesten-op-corona.html)
* **9 November**: First location of multiple XL-testing locations has opened - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2355840-groningen-opent-eerste-ggd-locatie-voor-sneltests.html)
* **3 November**: Hospitals postponing percentage of regular care - [NRC](https://www.nrc.nl/nieuws/2020/11/03/ziekenhuizen-schalen-aantal-operaties-af-om-coronapatienten-te-kunnen-opvangen-a4018422)

###### October

* **21 October**: New rapid tests called a ‘game-changer’, but also reservations to be made - [NOS](https://nos.nl/nieuwsuur/artikel/2353189-snelle-test-een-potentiele-game-changer-maar-er-zijn-ook-haken-en-ogen.html)
* **7 October**: Netherlands approves rapid COVID-19 tests - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2351349-sneltesten-goedgekeurd-maar-wie-heeft-hier-baat-bij.html)
* **1 October**: Hospitals are preparing themselves for postponing parts of regular care - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2350579-ziekenhuizen-bereiden-zich-voor-op-deels-uitstellen-reguliere-zorg.html)
* 1 **October**: Government advises to wear masks indoors - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2350449-ook-kabinet-dringend-advies-om-mondkapje-te-dragen-in-binnenruimtes.html?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=e78533ef0e-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_10_01_05_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-e78533ef0e-190517313)

###### September

* **28 September**: Healthcare provision might need to be scaled down due to COVID-19 ICU patients - [NU](https://www.nu.nl/coronavirus/6080334/aantal-opnames-stijgt-hard-ziekenhuizen-moeten-mogelijk-zorg-afschalen.html)
* **23 September**: Netherlands turns to Belgium to increase testing capacity – [Brussels Times](https://www.brusselstimes.com/news/belgium-all-news/health/132419/netherlands-turns-to-belgium-to-increase-covid-19-testing-capacity/)
* **8 September**: Experts see benefits of rapid tests complementary to PCR tests - [NOS](https://nos.nl/nieuwsuur/artikel/2347368-supersnelle-coronatests-in-aantocht-maar-nog-veel-vragen.html)
* **3 September**: Regional health authorities call people to stop requesting test when asymptomatic due to lack of capacity - [NU](https://www.nu.nl/binnenland/6075157/oproep-ggd-laat-je-niet-testen-zonder-symptomen-testlocaties-overbelast.html)
* **1 September**: New corona plan for care homes with increased testing frequency - [NU](https://www.nu.nl/coronavirus/6074651/verpleeghuizen-bij-uitbraak-vaker-testen-en-sneller-mondkapjes-dragen.html)

###### August

* **31 August**: German centres to help fill testing capacity - [Margriet](https://www.margriet.nl/gezondheid/coronatesten-duitsland-testcapaciteit/)
* **27 August**: Laboratory receive insufficient materials to perform tests - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2345633-laboratoria-krijgen-onvoldoende-materialen-voor-coronatesten.html)
* **24 August**: Test capacity has increased with 40% compared to some weeks ago - [NU](https://www.nu.nl/coronavirus/6072835/40-procent-meer-coronatests-afgenomen-percentage-positieve-tests-gedaald.html)

###### July

* **13 July**: Rehabilitation corona patients temporarily covered more broadly by insurance - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2340507-herstelzorg-ernstig-zieke-covid-19-patienten-voorlopig-ruimer-vergoed.html)
* **1 July**: Dutch medical specialists scrutinize corona measures and request restarting normal healthcare services – [Open Debat](https://opendebat.info/brandbrief/)

###### June

* **9 June**: Full testing capacity has never been used - [NU](https://www.nu.nl/coronavirus/6056877/aan-begin-coronacrisis-maar-helft-van-beschikbare-tests-gebruikt.html)
* **5 June**: Shortage of gloves in the Netherlands - [Trouw](https://www.trouw.nl/binnenland/na-mondkapjes-is-er-nu-weer-een-tekort-handschoenen~b7c97c8e/?referer=https%3A%2F%2Fnos.nl%2Fliveblog%2F2336258-frankrijk-heeft-corona-onder-controle-eerste-versie-corona-dashboard-online.html)

###### May

* **23 May**: From 1 June everyone in the Netherlands can get tested - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2334835-vanaf-1-juni-kan-iedereen-in-nederland-op-het-coronavirus-getest-worden.html)
* **22 May**: Resuming regular care happens only slowly - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2334679-ziekenhuizen-hervatten-reguliere-zorg-stap-voor-stap.html)
* **19 May**: Many HCPs still without PPE - [FNV](https://www.fnv.nl/nieuwsbericht/sectornieuws/zorg-welzijn/2020/05/veel-zorgpersoneel-werkt-nog-steeds-onbeschermd)
* **13 May**: From May 25th no VAT on masks - [NU](https://www.nu.nl/coronavirus/6050977/vanaf-25-mei-tijdelijk-geen-btw-op-mondkapjes.html)
* **11 May:** 290.000 elective treatments cancelled in the Netherlands - [Parool](https://www.parool.nl/nederland/ziekenhuis-zoekt-oplossing-voor-stuwmeer-aan-operaties~be59aaa5/)
* **5 May**: Million new tests ordered for study on herd immunity - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2332885-miljoen-nieuwe-tests-voor-onderzoek-naar-groepsimmuniteit.html)

### Norway

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * Overview of travel protocol for Norway - [Helsenorge](https://helsenorge.no/koronavirus/travel-advice#What-if-the-area/country-you-are-in-is-or-turns-%22red%22?) * [Official health institute corona website](https://www.fhi.no/en/id/infectious-diseases/coronavirus/) * [Official government website on corona](https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/koronavirus-covid-19/id2692388/) | Authorities in Norway will tighten restrictions intended to curb the spread of COVID-19 from 4 January 2021 until at least 18 January 2021 following an increase in infections ([Link](https://www.regjeringen.no/no/tema/Koronasituasjonen/id2692388/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.39doses per 100 people (11 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 2.5 million ([Link](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-norway-vaccine-idUSKBN28E1AU)) Moderna, AstraZeneca, Pfizer/BioNTech |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **8 January:** Norway secures 3.6 million additional Covid-19 vaccine doses – [NO](https://www.thelocal.no/20210108/norway-secures-36-million-additional-covid-19-vaccine-doses)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **4 December:** Norway to use three vaccines to stop COVID-19 from early 2021 – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-norway-vaccine/norway-to-use-three-vaccines-to-stop-covid-19-from-early-2021-idUSKBN28E1AU)

###### November

###### October

* 5 **October**: Norway will set aside 25 billion Norwegian crowns for handling the pandemic in 2021 – [Norway Today](https://norwaytoday.info/finance/norway-allocates-25-billion-kroner-for-corona-measures-in-2021/)

###### September

* **19 September**: Recommendation to use mask in public transport continues – [Norway Today](https://norwaytoday.info/news/recommendation-continues-for-face-masks-on-buses-and-trains-in-the-oslo-area/)
* **7 September**: Bergen increases test capacity – [Norway Today](https://norwaytoday.info/news/bergen-increases-covid-19-test-capacity/)

###### July

* **5 July**: Due to Covid-19 there is a decrease in organ donations while the waiting list increases heavily – [Norway Today](https://norwaytoday.info/news/decrease-in-the-number-of-organ-donations/)
* **1 July**: Half of rapid tests used not acceptable – [Norway Today](https://norwaytoday.info/news/half-of-the-fast-corona-tests-not-acceptable/)

###### June

* **9 June**: Government bought 1,000 respirators which could be distributed to other countries – [Norway Today](https://norwaytoday.info/news/no-need-for-emergency-respirators/)

###### May

* **15 May**: Testing capacity varies widely in municipalities – [Norway Today](https://norwaytoday.info/news/the-municipalities-test-capacity-varies-widely/)

### Poland

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website with corona measures](https://www.gov.pl/web/coronavirus/temporary-limitations) | Authorities in Poland plan to tighten existing COVID-19 restrictions from 28 December 2020 until at least 17 January 2021 due to elevated disease activity in the country ([Link](https://www.gov.pl/web/koronawirus)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.82doses per 100 people (13 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 60 million ([Link](https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-poland-idUSKBN28I17A)) six producers |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

##### **2020**

###### December

* **15 December:** Poland cannot ease COVID-19 restrictions yet, says PM – [Reuters](https://www.schengenvisainfo.com/news/netherlands-makes-covid-19-test-results-compulsory-for-arrivals-from-december-15/)
* **2 December:** Poland to wrap coronavirus vaccine strategy by week's end - PM's aide – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-poland-strategy-idUSKBN28C1V3)

###### November

* **16 November**: Second temporary hospital built in Poland – [Radio Poland](https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7784/Artykul/2621381,Second-temporary-hospital-for-Warsaw-as-Poland-fights-epidemic)
* **12 November:** Poland to set up more temporary hospitals as virus spreads – [Radio Poland](https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7989/Artykul/2618779,Poland-to-set-up-more-temporary-hospitals-as-virus-spreads)

###### October

* **21 October**: Polish PM promises extra hospital beds for COVID-19 patients – [Radio Poland](https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7784/Artykul/2605835,UPDATE-Polish-PM-promises-extra-hospital-beds-for-COVID19-patients)
* **15 October**: Health services to be postponed due to COVID-19 infection rate - [Wyborcza](https://katowice.wyborcza.pl/katowice/7,35063,26400810,nfz-zaleca-szpitalom-wstrzymac-planowe-przyjecia.html?disableRedirects=true)

###### September

* **23 September**: PM urges Europe to become self-sufficient in producing PPE – [Radio Poland](https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7785/Artykul/2587872,Europe-needs-to-be-selfsufficient-in-producing-gear-to-fight-COVID19-Polish-president)

###### August

* **26 August**: Polish people urged to get flu shot in Fall due to Covid crisis – [Radio Poland](https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7789/Artykul/2570933,Poles-urged-to-get-flu-shots-amid-COVID19-pandemic)

###### May

* **27 May**: Poland lifts mask obligation for the public – [Radio Poland](https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7784/Artykul/2519766,Poland-relaxing-face-mask-rules-reopening-theatres-gyms)
* **21 May**: Update on resumption of healthcare services in Poland - [Wyborcza](https://wyborcza.pl/7,173236,25964988,coronavirus-has-restricted-our-access-to-medical-care-here.html)
* **8 May**: National Health Fund reduces reimbursement for corona test - [Wyborcza](https://wyborcza.pl/7,173236,25896751,the-national-health-fund-reduced-the-reimbursement-price-for.html)
* **4 May**: Rehabilitation care to be resumed again – [Radio Poland](https://www.polskieradio.pl/395/7989/Artykul/2503595,Polish-hotels-malls-reopen-as-virus-curbs-eased)

### Portugal

|  |  |  |
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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website on COVID-19 measures](https://www.acm.gov.pt/-/covid-19-medidas-orientacoes-e-recomendacoes) * Overview of travel and testing protocols for Portugal – [Portuguese Government](https://www.portaldascomunidades.mne.pt/pt/noticias/faq-s-viagens-para-portugal-conselhos-aos-emigrantes) | Authorities in Portugal are maintaining the state of emergency and associated restrictions until at least 15 January 2021 ([Link](https://covid19.min-saude.pt/)) | * **Start date:** 28 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.69doses per 100 people (8 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  [Portugal’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.safecommunitiesportugal.com/portugal-cov-19-vaccination-plan-unveiled/?fbclid=IwAR0my2baWyBz0mJxYopKLWAVY-7XitGxhs7mD_R7f2IIzdO9btQ9y4l_e8A) * **Doses Acquired:** 22 million ([Link](https://www.urdupoint.com/en/world/portugal-to-get-22mln-covid-19-vaccine-doses-1104152.html)) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **5 January:** Portugal among top-5 countries in Europe with highest Covid vaccination rates – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/2021-01-05/portugal-among-top-5-countries-in-europe-with-highest-covid-vaccination-rates/57518)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **16 December**: Covid vaccinations could start by Dec 28 – [TPN](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/2020-12-16/covid-vaccinations-could-start-by-dec-28/57224)
* **2 December**: Portugal to have 22 million covid-19 vaccines – [TPN](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/2020-12-02/portugal-to-have-22-million-covid-19-vaccines/56984)
* **2 December**: Portugal can get Pfizer COVID-19 shots within 3 days of EU approval, company says – [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-portugal-vaccine/portugal-can-get-pfizer-covid-19-shots-within-3-days-of-eu-approval-company-says-idUSL8N2II43G)

###### November

* **24 November**: Portugal enters a new state of emergency from the 24 November for another 15 days – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/2020-11-24/portugal-entered-a-new-state-of-emergency-today-for-another-15-days/56860)

###### October

* **27 October**: Regular healthcare services in danger due to number of COVID-19 patients – [R7](https://noticias.r7.com/internacional/hospitais-portugueses-se-preparam-para-lotacao-por-casos-de-covid-27102020)
* **27 October**: Pressure on Portuguese health system could prompt further restrictions – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/pressure-on-portugal's-health-system-could-prompt-further-restrictions/56389)
* **26 October**: Mandatory mask-wearing rules expected to take effect in coming days – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/mandatory-outdoor-mask-wearing-law-expected-to-take-effect-in-coming-days/56384)
* **21 October**: Flu vaccine for more groups from today with 2nd phase initiated – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/flu-vaccine-for-more-groups-starting-today-with-the-2nd-phase-of-the-campaign/56254)
* **13 October**: 67% of ICUs are occupied currently - [EFE](https://www.efe.com/efe/espana/sociedad/las-uci-de-portugal-al-67-ocupacion/10004-4370817?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=c5a44a2816-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_10_18_02_59&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-c5a44a2816-190134045)

###### September

* **18 September**: Flu vaccination campaign to start early in Portugal – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/flu-vaccine-campaign-to-start-early-in-portugal/55832)
* **6 September**: Portuguese PM requests people to wear masks manufactured in Portugal – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/costa-asks-the-portuguese-to-wear-reusable-national-masks/55621)

###### August

* **9 August**: Local authorities decide on testing at schools – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/covid-19-testing-at-schools-to-be-decided-by-local-health-authorities/55249)
* **8 August**: one million fewer medical consultations in Portugal due to COVID-19 – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/one-million-fewer-medical-consultations/55243)
* **3 August**: Portugal has done 13300 tests a day – [GOV](https://www.portugal.gov.pt/pt/gc22/comunicacao/noticia?i=portugal-tem-feito-mais-de-13-mil-testes-por-dia)

###### July

* **29 July**: Madeira makes masks compulsory – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/madeira-makes-masks-compulsory-in-public/55061)
* **27 July**: Scientists in Portugal create reusable mask that disables coronavirus - [Euronews](https://www.euronews.com/2020/07/27/scientists-in-portugal-create-reusable-mask-that-inactivates-coronavirus)
* **12 July**: Government unsure when health care services return back to normal – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/government-still-unsure-when-health-centres-will-return-in-full/54828)

###### June

* **5 June**: New investment plan for social and healthcare sector – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/portugals-economic-plan-to-help-businesses-and-families/54414)
* **2 June**: New testing plan for the Lisbon region comprises 7,000 daily tests – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/testing-plan-in-the-lisbon-region-is-7000-daily-tests/54348)

###### May

* **18 May**: Portugal reviewing testing strategies – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/secretary-of-state-for-health-admits-reviewing-testing-strategies/54178)
* **15 May**: Immunity study has been initiated – [Portuguese News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/immunity-study-of-portuguese-begins/54138)
* **5 May**: Portuguese hospitals preparing gradual resuming to non-urgent activity – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/evora-hospital-prepares-to-resume-non-urgent-activities/54003)
* **4 May**: Portugal produces high volume of masks, starts exporting – [Portugal News](https://www.theportugalnews.com/news/portugal-produces-one-million-masks-a-day-and-starts-exporting/53992)

### Romania

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * Overview of travel protocol for Romania – [Romanian government](https://www.politiadefrontiera.ro/en/main/i--7599.html) | As part of ongoing efforts to limit the spread of COVID-19, authorities in Romania will extend the nation's state of alert and all restrictions until at least 13 January 2021 ([Link](https://stirioficiale.ro/informatii)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.73doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 1.29 million ([Link](https://www.romania-insider.com/romania-coronavirus-vaccines-share)) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Romania receives first batch of Moderna vaccines – [RI](https://www.romania-insider.com/first-moderna-vaccines-romania)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **16 December:** Army joins Romanian public health departments’ efforts to fight COVID-19 – [Romania Insider](https://www.romania-insider.com/soldiers-romania-health-efforts-covid)
* **3 December:** Romania's defense council to discuss Covid-19 vaccination strategy – [RomaniaInsider](https://www.romania-insider.com/covid-vaccination-details-groups-dec-2020)

###### November

* **18 November**: Romanian President announces national vaccination strategy – [Romania Insider](https://www.romania-insider.com/president-national-vaccination-strategy)
* **18 November:** Romanian PM explains why testing capacity is not being fully used – [Romania Insider](https://www.romania-insider.com/pm-covid-testing-capacity-fully-used)
* **18 November:** Romania’s leading private medical service provider will become COVID-19 support unit – [Romania Insider](https://www.romania-insider.com/medlife-hospital-arad-support-covid)

###### October

* **19 October**: Hospitals prepare for COVID-19 patients as infection rate rises – [Romania Insider](https://www.romania-insider.com/all-hospitals-romania-coronavirus-patients?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=46767d2f6a-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_10_19_04_52&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-46767d2f6a-190517313)
* **9 October**: President recommends citizens to wear face masks everywhere – [Romania Journal](https://www.romaniajournal.ro/category/politics/)

###### September

* **23 September**: Romania is considering mandatory tests for people coming from abroad – [Romania Journal](https://www.romaniajournal.ro/society-people/health/romania-is-considering-mandatory-covid-tests-for-people-coming-from-abroad/)

###### July

* **29 July**: Second region in Romania makes face masks mandatory – [Romania Journal](https://www.romaniajournal.ro/society-people/after-arges-a-second-county-in-romania-imposes-mandatory-face-masks-in-outdoor-public-spaces/)

###### June

* **3 June**: Testing campaign launched to test over 29,000 people for antibodies – [Romania Journal](https://www.romaniajournal.ro/society-people/health/health-ministry-to-test-over-29000-romanians-for-covid-19-antibodies-during-june-september/)

###### May

* **12 May**: Masks to be mandatory in public spaces – [Romania Journal](https://www.romaniajournal.ro/politics/president-iohannis-facemasks-compulsory-in-public-spaces-affidavits-needed-to-leave-your-locality/)
* **4 May**: Dental offices to reopen, masks mandatory – [Romania Journal](https://www.romaniajournal.ro/society-people/president-state-of-emergency-not-to-be-extended-hair-salons-dental-offices-and-museums-to-open-as-of-may-15/)

### Slovakia

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Official website on the coronavirus](https://korona.gov.sk/en/) * Overview of travel and testing protocol for entering Slovakia – [Slovakian government](https://www.mzv.sk/web/en/covid-19) | Authorities in Slovakia have extended measures imposed to curb the spread of COVID-19 until at least 24 January amid consistently high levels of transmission ([Link](https://korona.gov.sk/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.58doses per 100 people (11 January 2021) * **Strategy:**  *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 2.44 million ([Link](https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22533293/slovakia-has-ordered-2-44-million-covid-19-vaccines.html)) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **5 January:** No work without COVID test in central Slovakia as hospitals overflow worst-hit region – [REUTERS](https://www.reuters.com/article/health-coronavirus-slovakia/no-work-without-covid-test-in-central-slovakia-as-hospitals-overflow-worst-hit-region-idUSL8N2JG3XU)

##### **2020**

###### November

* **9 November**: More than 2 million people tested in the second round of mass testing - [Spectator](https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22531198/coronavirus-in-slovakia-mass-testing-summary.html)

###### October

* **31 October**: Nationwide testing has started - [Spectator](https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22523203/nationwide-testing-for-covid-19-launched.html?ref=njctse)
* **28 October**: A guide to Slovakia’s testing campaign - [Spectator](https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22520558/a-step-by-step-guide-to-nationwide-testing.html)
* **22 October**: Slovakia orders partial lockdown, plans nationwide testing - [Reuters](https://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-health-coronavirus-slovakia/slovakia-orders-partial-lockdown-plans-nationwide-testing-idUKKBN2772Q9?il=0&utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=afbdd48b73-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_10_23_05_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-afbdd48b73-190517313)
* **21 October**: Those not attending the nationwide testing should stay in isolation - [Spectator](https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22514926/coronavirus-in-slovakia-nationwide-testing-will-be-voluntary-but-isolation-required-if-no-tests.html)
* **21 October**: Most citizens plan to participate in nationwide testing - [Spectator](https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22514840/most-slovaks-plan-to-participate-in-the-nationwide-testing.html)
* **19 October**: The army will be used to secure testing - [Spectator](https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22513268/nationwide-testing-will-be-secured-by-the-army.html?ref=njctse)
* **16 October**: Slovakia wants to test the whole population - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2352716-slowaakse-regering-wil-hele-bevolking-testen-op-corona.html)

###### September

* **23 September**: Government procures 700,000 tests - [HN](https://slovensko.hnonline.sk/2215896-vlada-schvalila-nakup-700-tisic-testov-na-koronavirus)

###### May

* **18 May**: Masks not to be compulsory in public, Slovakia enters 4th phase - [Spectator](https://spectator.sme.sk/c/22406969/slovakia-enters-4th-phase-of-easing-coronavirus-measures.html)

### Slovenia

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| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [General Measures regarding corona in Slovenia](https://www.gov.si/en/topics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/koronavirus-preparedness-and-measures-in-slovenia/) * Overview of travel protocol for Slovenia – [Slovenian government](https://www.policija.si/eng/newsroom/news-archive/103470-crossing-the-state-border-during-the-coronavirus-epidemic) | Authorities in Slovenia have extended nationwide restrictions on business and travel until at least 16 January 2021 as part of efforts to control the spread of COVID-19 ([Link](https://www.gov.si/en/state-authorities/government/)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 1.18doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:** *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** *N/A* |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

##### **2020**

###### November

* **16 November**: National COVID-19 vaccination programme ready – [Slovenia Times](http://www.sloveniatimes.com/national-covid-19-vaccination-programme-ready)

###### September

* **3 September**: Government now able to fine those breaching mask rules - [STA](https://english.sta.si/2802905/govt-creates-basis-to-fine-those-who-flout-face-mask-rules)

###### June

* **19 June**: Slovenia wants to host EU RescEU stockpile – [Slovenia Times](http://www.sloveniatimes.com/slovenia-vying-to-host-eu-logistics-centre)

###### May

* **5 May**: Ministry cancels controversial ventilator contract – [TSN](https://www.total-slovenia-news.com/politics/6171-ministry-cancels-controversial-ventilator-delivery-contract-with-geneplanet?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=88aa0cc993-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_05_06_04_59&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-88aa0cc993-190517313)

### Spain

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * Overview of measures and travel protocols for Spain - [SpainInfo](https://www.spain.info/en/discover-spain/practical-information-tourists-covid-19-travel-spain/) | Domestic COVID-19 measures also remain in place. A nationwide state of emergency is in effect until at least 9 May 2021 empowering the government to limit certain rights guaranteed under the nation's constitution ([Link](https://www.mscbs.gob.es/profesionales/saludPublica/ccayes/alertasActual/nCov/estrategia/medidasPrevCCAA.htm)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 1.04doses per 100 people (12 January 2021) * **Strategy:** [Ministry of Health’s Press Release on Vaccination Strategy](https://www.mscbs.gob.es/gabinete/notasPrensa.do?id=5148) (in Spanish) * **Doses Acquired:** 80 million ([Link](https://www.euroweeklynews.com/2020/11/24/spain-to-receive-80-million-covid-19-vaccine-doses/)) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **12 January:** Spain sets up more field hospitals amid COVID-19 spike – [AA](https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/spain-sets-up-more-field-hospitals-amid-covid-19-spike/2107796)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **29 December:** Spain to share coronavirus vaccine-refusal registry with EU countries – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/spain-coronavirus-vaccine-refusal-registry-with-eu-countries/)
* **1 December**: Spain In Talks With UK Over Pre-Departure Testing Scheme – [Euro Weekly](https://www.euroweeklynews.com/2020/12/01/spain-in-talks-with-uk-over-pre-departure-testing-scheme/)

###### November

* **24 November**: Spain unveils coronavirus vaccination plan - [AA](https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/spain-unveils-coronavirus-vaccination-plan/2054476)
* **18 November**: Ministry of Health does not recommend antigen testing prior to surgery regarding asymptomatic patients without suspected infection - [Sanidad](http://isanidad.com/173877/sanidad-no-recomienda-hacer-test-de-antigenos-previo-a-cirugia-a-pacientes-asintomaticos-sin-sospecha-de-infeccion/)
* **17 November**: Madrid pushes for testing in pharmacies to ensure all residents are tested – [Olive Press](https://www.theolivepress.es/spain-news/2020/11/17/madrid-pushes-for-testing-in-pharmacies-to-ensure-all-6-7-million-of-its-residents-tested-before-christmas-and-plan-could-be-replicated-across-spain/)
* **14 November:** Ministry of Health lowers the price of masks by 25% - [iSanidad](http://isanidad.com/173672/sanidad-baja-precio-mascarillas-25-por-ciento-como-maximo-costaran-72-centimos/)
* **12 November:** Spain to demand negative COVID test for air travellers from high-risk countries – [EURACTIV](https://www.euractiv.com/section/coronavirus/news/spain-to-demand-negative-covid-test-for-air-travellers-from-high-risk-countries/)

###### October

* **31 October**: Second wave paralyses regular hospital services - [Alimente](https://www.alimente.elconfidencial.com/bienestar/2020-10-31/cirugia-segunda-ola-covid-19_2802159/)
* **27 October**: Government will keep health sector exempt from VAT – [La Vanguardia](https://www.lavanguardia.com/politica/20201027/4949756890/el-gobierno-mantendra-exento-de-iva-al-sector-privado-de-educacion-y-sanidad.html?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=0d4dcd16ad-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_10_28_06_06&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-0d4dcd16ad-190517313)

###### September

* **21 September**: Spain starts flu vaccination campaign - [MSCBS](https://www.mscbs.gob.es/gabinete/notasPrensa.do?id=5055&utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=0769c77247-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_09_22_05_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-0769c77247-190517313)

###### August

* **25 August**: Catalonia ramping up testing and increases measures to curb spread – [El País](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-08-24/catalonia-bans-social-gatherings-of-more-than-10-people.html)
* **14 August**: Health Ministry advises routine testing in care homes - [Politico](https://www.politico.eu/article/spain-bans-smoking-shuts-nightclubs-under-new-coronavirus-restrictions/)

###### July

* **28 July**: Madrid makes masks mandatory – [El Mundo](https://www.elmundo.es/madrid/2020/07/28/5f1ffa0a21efa0e2798b457a.html)
* **15 July**: Balearic Islands to make face masks mandatory – [El País](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-07-09/spains-balearic-islands-to-make-face-masks-mandatory-in-all-public-spaces-except-the-beach.html)
* **13 July**: Multiple regions make masks mandatory – [El País](https://english.elpais.com/spanish_news/2020-07-13/with-over-100-coronavirus-outbreaks-more-spanish-regions-make-face-masks-mandatory.html)
* **7 July**: Catalan government looking to reintroduce mandatory masks – [El Dario](https://www.eldiario.es/catalunya/consellera-salud-plantea-govern-mascarillas-sea-obligatorio_1_6086843.html?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=047aa44901-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_07_08_05_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-047aa44901-190517313)

###### June

* **17 June**: PCR Tests for all those in contact with Covid-19 case – [El País](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-06-17/spain-will-do-pcr-tests-on-all-close-contacts-of-covid-19-cases.html)
* **6 June**: Face masks to remain obligatory after end state of alarm – [El País](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-06-06/face-masks-will-still-be-obligatory-in-spain-after-the-state-of-alarm.html)

###### May

* **26 May**: Spain deescalating measures with still only limited testing capacity – [El País](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-05-26/spain-deescalating-coronavirus-measures-without-testing-all-suspected-cases.html)
* **19 May**: Face mask obligatory where distancing not possible – [El Pais](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-05-19/face-masks-in-spain-will-be-compulsory-in-public-spaces-where-social-distancing-cannot-be-respected.html)
* **14 May**: Ministry discourages FFP2 masks for the general public – [El Pais](https://www.elmundo.es/ciencia-y-salud/salud/2020/05/14/5ebcfeabfc6c83a0588b45a1.html)
* **13 May**: Spanish health ministry considering making masks obligatory in public – [El Pais](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-05-13/spanish-health-ministry-considering-making-masks-obligatory-in-public.html)
* **7 May**: Many hospitals actively recovering normal activity - [EFE](https://www.efe.com/efe/espana/portada/simon-muchos-hospitales-ya-estan-consiguiendo-esa-normalidad-diferente/10010-4240456)
* **6 May**: Madrid government overstated reliability of 100.000 tests for HCPs – [El Pais](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-05-06/madrid-overstates-reliability-of-100000-coronavirus-tests-for-health-workers.html)
* **4 May**: Spanish government to hand out 14 million face masks to public – [El Pais](https://english.elpais.com/society/2020-05-04/shopping-driving-training-new-deescalation-measures-go-into-effect-in-spain-on-may-4.html)

### Sweden

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [Government Response to COVID-19](https://www.government.se/government-policy/the-governments-work-in-response-to-the-virus-responsible-for-covid-19/) * [Official Information about COVID-19](https://www.krisinformation.se/en/hazards-and-risks/disasters-and-incidents/2020/official-information-on-the-new-coronavirus) | Sweden is maintaining restrictions imposed to stem the spread of COVID-19 as of 4 January 2021 ([Link](https://www.krisinformation.se/en)) | * **Start date:** 27 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 0.79 doses per 100 people (10 January 2021) * **Strategy:** *N/A* * **Doses Acquired:** 19.5 million ([Link](https://news.trust.org/item/20201130111138-1qj7b)) CureVac (4.5 million), Pfizer-BioNTech (4.5), AstraZeneca (6), J&J (4.5) |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Sweden Finally Tightens Covid Measures After Being Slammed by Virus – [Bloomberg](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-01-13/odd-man-out-sweden-slammed-by-virus-gets-with-the-program)
* **5 January:** Swedes fume at leaders’ lockdown lapses – [POLITICO](https://www.politico.eu/article/sweden-coronavirus-lockdown-lapses-public-anger/)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **12 December:** Sweden’s Covid Workers Are Quitting in Dangerous Numbers – [Bloomberg](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-12-12/swedish-covid-workers-are-quitting-leaving-icus-short-staffed)
* **2 December**: Swedish government loses support as COVID-19 strategy comes under pressure - [Fortune](https://fortune.com/2020/12/02/sweden-government-covid19-support/)

###### November

* **26 November**: COVID-19 vaccination could begin in January – [AA](https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/sweden-covid-19-vaccination-could-begin-in-january/2057258)
* **19 November**: Sweden's Public Health Agency has advised the country's regions to impose limits on who can get tested for Covid-19 in order to free up essential testing capacity – [The Local](https://www.thelocal.se/20201119/sweden-puts-new-limits-on-testing-to-free-capacity)
* **17 November**: Even though WHO recommends face masks, Swedish Health Agency is not yet there – [Radio Sweden](file:///C:\Users\g.Dallenogare\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\U433T8I6\•%09Joint%20statement%20–%20discussion,%20timing,%20dissemination)

###### August

* **26 August**: Thousands of people get false negatives with PCR tests – [Wellington Times](https://www.wellingtontimes.com.au/story/6895748/thousands-get-wrong-sweden-virus-results/?cs=5461&utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=cb93cbfce3-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_08_26_05_11&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-cb93cbfce3-190517313)

###### June

* **17 June**: One in seven developed antibodies in results of mass testing - [DN](https://www.dn.se/nyheter/sverige/var-sjunde-stockholmare-har-utvecklat-antikroppar/)
* **15 June**: After Stockholm also other regions look to introduce extensive antibody tests - [DN](https://www.dn.se/nyheter/sverige/vastra-gotalandsregionen-utreder-mojligheten-att-genomfora-omfattande-antikroppstester/)
* **5 June**: Sweden announces free virus testing - [MedInLive](https://www.medinlive.at/gesundheitspolitik/schweden-kuendigt-gratis-testungen-auf-virus)
* **3 June**: Many Swedish regions initiating extended covid-19 testing - [DN](https://www.dn.se/nyheter/sverige/sormland-ska-testa-alla-vuxna-med-symptom/)

### Switzerland

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [COVID-19 Official Website](https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/ausbrueche-epidemien-pandemien/aktuelle-ausbrueche-epidemien/novel-cov.html) (FR, DE, IT, EN) * Overview of travel protocols for Switzerland - [BAG](https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/ausbrueche-epidemien-pandemien/aktuelle-ausbrueche-epidemien/novel-cov/empfehlungen-fuer-reisende.html) | Domestic business and activity restrictions remain in effect as of 29 December 2020 through at least 22 January 2021 ([Link](https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/ausbrueche-epidemien-pandemien/aktuelle-ausbrueche-epidemien/novel-cov.html)) | * **Start date:** 23 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** *N/A* * **Strategy:** [Switzerland’s Vaccination Strategy](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/switzerland-plans-covid-19-vaccination-strategy/46206788) * **Doses Acquired:** 15.8 million ([Link](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/switzerland-ramps-up-covid-19-vaccine-order/46212598)) three different manufacturers |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **12 January:** Swissmedic grants approval for the Covid-19 vaccine from Moderna – [Swissmedic](https://www.swissmedic.ch/swissmedic/de/home/news/coronavirus-covid-19/zulassung-covid-19-impfstoff-moderna.html)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **11 December:** Covid: Emergency vaccine approval not an option in Switzerland – [le News](https://lenews.ch/2020/12/11/covid-emergency-vaccine-approval-not-an-option-in-switzerland/)
* **1 December**: Incomplete data stalls Swiss authorisation of Covid-19 vaccines – [SWI](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/incomplete-data-stalls-swiss-authorisation-of-covid-19-vaccines/46196598)

###### November

* **19 November**: Intensive care units in Switzerland ‘at capacity’ because of COVID-19 pandemic – [EuroNews](https://www.euronews.com/2020/11/19/intensive-care-units-in-switzerland-at-capacity-because-of-covid-19-pandemic)
* **4 November**: Government appeals to suspend non-essential surgeries - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/government-beefs-up-support-as-swiss-covid-cases-spike/46140946)

###### October

* **28 October**: Government increases mask-wearing obligation as numbers rise - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/switzerland-imposes-early-closing-time-for-bars-and-restaurants/46125392)
* **27 October**: Swiss ICUs set to reach capacity in 15 days - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/swiss-intensive-care-units-set-to-reach-capacity-in-15-days/46123634)
* **17 October**: Enough masks in stock for Swiss population until end of 2020 - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/latest-news/enough-masks-in-stock-for-swiss-population-until-end-of-2020/46103592)
* **16 October**: Concerns grow over hospitals’ COVID-19 capacity - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/-turning-point---concerns-grow-over-hospitals--covid-capacities/46101344)
* **7 October**: Millions of face masks in Switzerland fail to comply with regulations - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/latest-news/millions-of-face-masks-in-switzerland-fail-to-conform-to-regulations/46081578)

###### August

* **24 August**: Mask obligations installed in shops in parts of Switzerland - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/zurich-shoppers-must-wear-face-masks-against-coronavirus/45988580)
* **19 August**: Swiss government wants to restrict direct access to specialists to save money - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/government-seeks-to-limit-access-to-specialists-to-reduce-healthcare-costs/45977922)

###### July

* **17 July**: Swiss bodies opened investigations into imported defective masks - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/swiss-flag-up-faulty-ffp-masks-/45911154)
* **6 July**: Mask to become mandatory in public transport - [BAG](https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/ausbrueche-epidemien-pandemien/aktuelle-ausbrueche-epidemien/novel-cov/masken.html#:~:text=The%20Federal%20Council%20introduced%20a,a%20partition%20is%20in%20place.)

###### June

* **19 June**: Switzerland needs to improve the speed and quality of its coronavirus data - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/covid-19-task-force-calls-for-better-data-/45847872)

###### May

* **22 May**: Swiss hospitals looking at government to help bridge vast revenue loss due to PPE rules and delay elective surgery - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/healthcare-_-swiss-hospitals-lose-up-to-chf3-billion-amid-pandemic-/45777544)
* **13 May**: Swiss government funds to help access to diagnostic and therapeutic products - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/development-assistance_swiss-focus-on-diagnostics-and-vaccine-in-global-fight-against-covid-19/45756956)
* **1 May**: Face mask shortage being countered in Switzerland - [SwissInfo](https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/coronavirus_face-mask-shortage-being-countered-in-switzerland/45731344)

### United Kingdom

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Relevant national websites | Current status | Vaccination Strategy |
| * [UK Government Official Response](https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response) * [COVID-19: guidance for employees, employers and businesses](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19) * [The Health Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations 2020](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2020/129/contents/made) * Overview of travel protocols for the UK - [GOV](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors) | Authorities in the UK plan to tighten COVID-19 restrictions in England and Scotland from 5 January 2021 with a national lockdown ([Link](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-lockdown-stay-at-home)) | * **Start date:** 8 December 2020 * **Doses administered:** 4.19doses per 100 people (11 January 2021) * **Strategy:** Priority groups for coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination – [UK Government](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-2-december-2020/priority-groups-for-coronavirus-covid-19-vaccination-advice-from-the-jcvi-2-december-2020) * **Doses Acquired:** *N/A* |

#### **Latest Member State developments affecting the medical technology industry**

##### **2021**

###### January

* **13 January:** Large trial of new treatment begins in UK – [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55639096)
* **13 January:** UK approves Excalibur’s Covid-19 antigen test for mass screening – [Medical Device Network](https://www.medicaldevice-network.com/news/uk-excalibur-covid-19-antigen-test/)
* **12 January:** UK science advisers: publish evidence behind COVID vaccine changes – [nature](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-00045-8)
* **12 January:** Covid-19: government must urgently rethink lateral flow test roll out – [BMJ](https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2021/01/12/covid-19-government-must-urgently-rethink-lateral-flow-test-roll-out/)
* **11 January:** Government publishes plan for the largest vaccination programme in British history – [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-publishes-plan-for-the-largest-vaccination-programme-in-british-history)
* **10 January:** Mass testing for asymptomatic Covid to be rolled out across England – [FT](https://www.ft.com/content/75b8f150-64bb-4d55-b14c-604b44ca2ec9)
* **10 January:** Government to deploy first British-manufactured rapid lateral flow antigen tests for COVID-19 – G[OV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-deploy-first-british-manufactured-rapid-lateral-flow-antigen-tests-for-covid-19)
* **10 January:** Asymptomatic testing to be rolled out across the country starting this week – [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/asymptomatic-testing-to-be-rolled-out-across-the-country-starting-this-week)
* **8 January:** Mandatory COVID-19 testing introduced to bolster border measures – [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/mandatory-covid-19-testing-introduced-to-bolster-border-measures)
* **6 January:** Government to introduce mandatory COVID tests for UK-bound travellers – [Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/travel/news-and-advice/covid-test-flight-uk-pcr-border-b1782425.html)

##### **2020**

###### December

* **16 December:** Army develops spray to kill coronavirus – [Gov.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/army-develops-spray-to-kill-coronavirus)
* **16 December:** Covid vaccine: More than 130,000 vaccinated in UK in first week – [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55332242)
* **8 December:** How will we keep the Covid vaccine at a cold enough temperature? – [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-54889084)
* **2 December**: Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine judged safe for use in UK from next week – [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-55145696)

###### November

* **23 November**: England arrivals to be able to cut quarantine with private test – [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-55052381)
* **16 November**: Northern Ireland is short of 200,000 flu vaccines - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-54953641)
* **10 November**: Mass testing in 67 local areas in England - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-54885657)
* **3 November**: City-wide corona testing to be piloted in Liverpool - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-54786130)
* **3 November**: English hospitals cancel non-urgent surgeries due to COVID-19 – [Irish Times](https://www.irishtimes.com/news/health/coronavirus/english-hospitals-cancel-non-urgent-procedures-due-to-covid-19-1.4399231)
* **2 November**: Flu vaccine put on export restriction list - [GOV](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/medicines-that-cannot-be-parallel-exported-from-the-uk?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=623824c278-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_11_02_06_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-623824c278-190517313)

###### October

* **29 October**: Scottish government presents different alert level system - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-54731245)
* **7 October**: Taskforce to look at virus testing for UK arrivals - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-54452397)

###### September

* **15 September**: NHS service recovery and winter preparation at risk from current testing shortages – [NHS Providers](https://nhsproviders.org/news-blogs/news/nhs-service-recovery-and-winter-preparation-at-risk-from-current-testing-shortages?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=9f3128c392-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_09_15_02_59&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-9f3128c392-190517313)
* **9 September**: Government plans to spend 100bn on national testing strategy - [BMJ](https://www.bmj.com/content/370/bmj.m3520)
* **9 September**: Health Secretary accuses people of seeking tests without any Covid-19 symptoms - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-54088206)
* **9 September**: UK PM grilled over testing situation - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/live/world-54083725)
* **8 September**: Problems occur with UK test booking system - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-54070961)
* **7 September**: Oxford University highlights extreme sensitivity of widely used PCR test in study - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-54000629?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=aeb475bc24-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_09_07_05_00&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-aeb475bc24-190517313)
* **6 September**: Home antibody test back on market in UK - [FT](https://politico.us8.list-manage.com/track/click?u=e26c1a1c392386a968d02fdbc&id=1cfc528130&e=282c70b60b)
* **3 September**: Testing capacity maximum has been reached, waiting times increase - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-53990068)
* **3 September**: 500 million funding for next generation testing technology and increased testing capacity - [GOV](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/500-million-funding-for-quick-result-covid-19-test-trials?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=1e9db502c6-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_09_03_04_59&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-1e9db502c6-190517313)

###### August

* **24 August**: Scottish testing capacity hit by exceptional demand and technical hurdles - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-53888797)
* **26 August**: School pupils must wear face mask - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/education-53907035)
* **17 August**: Six new Welsh hot labs installed to increase testing capacity - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-53812549)
* **10 August**: Face coverings compulsory for NI shoppers - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-northern-ireland-53698451)
* **10 August**: UK recalls testing kits used in national testing programme – [UK GOV](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/update-on-randox-test-kits--2?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=55b645c2a7-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_08_08_02_15&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-55b645c2a7-190517313)
* **7 August**: Study finds that chemotherapy in cancer patients with COVID-19 is not a risk - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-53680802)

###### July

* **29 July**: Heathrow wants government to introduce corona tests for travellers - [NOS](https://nos.nl/artikel/2342194-heathrow-dringt-aan-op-snelle-coronatest-voor-reizigers.html)
* **24 July**: NHS slow to recover compared to other national health systems – [About Mancester](https://aboutmanchester.co.uk/covid-19-starting-position-for-nhs-risks-leaving-uk-trailing-the-pack-in-the-race-to-recovery/)
* **24 July**: UK to roll out large flu programme this winter taking COVID-19 into account – [UK government](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/most-comprehensive-flu-programme-in-uk-history-will-be-rolled-out-this-winter)
* **23 July**: British MPs want routine NHS testing - [Parliament](https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/81/health-and-social-care-committee/news/147546/government-and-nhsei-must-act-on-evidence-of-failings-in-nhs-services-caused-by-covid-crisis/?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=65d6beb0f6-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_07_23_09_31&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-65d6beb0f6-190517313)
* **15 July**: Face mask obligations in offices ruled out - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-53415030)
* **13 July**: Face masks in shops mandatory – [The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jul/13/boris-johnson-says-face-masks-should-be-worn-in-shops-in-england)
* **13 July**: Wales introduces face mask obligation in public transport - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-wales-53398359/coronavirus-you-ll-need-a-face-mask-on-the-bus-train-or-taxi)
* **9 July**: UK starts asymptomatic testing scheme pilot for workers with high risk jobs – [The Guardian](https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/jul/09/asymptomatic-testing-extended-to-thousands-of-workers-in-england-coronavirus?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=7b1ee79bc1-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_07_10_05_13&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-7b1ee79bc1-190517313)
* **9 July**: Half a million waiting for diagnostic tests due to backlog – [The Times](https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/half-a-million-people-waiting-more-than-six-weeks-for-key-diagnostic-tests-dl7dnkljc?utm_source=POLITICO.EU&utm_campaign=7b1ee79bc1-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_07_10_05_13&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_10959edeb5-7b1ee79bc1-190517313)

###### June

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* **24 June**: Backlog in non-Covid treatments is increasing - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-53164172)

###### May

* **19 May**: MPs urge government to learn lessons from failed testing strategy - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-52716828)
* **15 May**: Resuming NHS only with rapid testing and enough PPE, Health Unions say - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-52668014)
* **14 May**: Leading UK charities warn for challenges regarding opening up NHS – [Nuffield Trust](https://www.nuffieldtrust.org.uk/news-item/letter-to-the-health-and-social-care-select-committee)
* **12 May**: Charities plead for restart disrupted cancer services - [BBC](https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-52626409)
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