

SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19

A new virus and associated respiratory disease

Springer Nature Supports Scientists Fighting COVID-19

SARS-CoV-2 is the new virus responsible for an outbreak of respiratory illness known as COVID-19, which has spread to several countries around the world. Springer Nature is committed to supporting the global response to emerging outbreaks by enabling fast and direct access to the latest available research, evidence, and data.

Despite being a large global company with many publishing imprints (ADIS, BMC, Nature Research, Palgrave and Springer), Springer Nature was able to rapidly respond to this new global disease threat, to ensure accessibility of relevant resources to those working to address the emergency - including researchers, policy makers and healthcare workers. Our expeditious response was facilitated by a protocol we have in place for responding to public health emergencies (PHEs).

Our protocol ensures we deliver a coordinated response to PHEs across Springer Nature imprints, enabling us to act in synergy, promptly and consistently. The protocol:

-  Defines when we should react
-  Empowers Springer Nature to take rapid action, designating clear areas of responsibility within the company and identifying stakeholders
-  Ensures important research is available to those working to address the PHEIC
-  Enhances real world impact of the content we publish, supporting SDG3: Good Health and Wellbeing (and other SDGs)

On activation of our protocol, we provide free access for the duration of the PHEIC to journal research articles directly related to the focus of the emergency. We also strongly encourage early dissemination of research via preprints.

So far we have:



Enabled free access to **over 19,000** articles and book chapters on our platforms



Published **over 490** new COVID-19 articles and supported all researchers in making their underlying experimental data sets available for free and re-use



Made available, via Research Square, **over 160** COVID-19 preprint articles

For the free articles and books, please visit
<https://www.springernature.com/gp/researchers/campaigns/coronavirus>

**Open access articles and books are permanently accessible, while other non OA articles and books will be free until the end of July 2020*