

ISTH COVID-19 EPID NEWS BULLETIN

28th July, 2020.

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Hello Readers

This week in addition to our usual statistical updates of the COVID-19 situation, we will be taking stock and looking at the bigger picture for Edo State with some highlights from ISTH COVID RESPONSE and occupational health advisory.



WORLD HEPATITIS DAY 2020

Do you know your hepatitis status. Ensure you get screened today. In addition, observe standard precaution always while maintaining social distance and using your face masks.

Closer to the end than the beginning?

The world is taking stock of how far we have come since the onset of the pandemic and the developments/gains of the past months.

Vaccine trial results look promising and may become available later in the year. For those already using zinc as part of treatment guidelines, evidence also shows that it has a role to play in prevention.

Remember the speculations about previous vaccines protection against SARS-CoV-2? Well new research finds that the MMR vaccine can prevent the most severe symptoms of COVID.

NIGERIA SITUATION REPORT

- ✚ From 27th February 2020-25th July 2020
 - Total cases 39977
 - No of confirmed deaths 856
 - Case fatality rate 2.1%
- ✚ For the week- 19th July-25th July 2020 (epidweek 30)
 - New cases 3870
 - No of confirmed deaths 78
- ✚ Percentage increase/decrease in new cases from the previous week **6.1% decrease in new cases compared to last week.**
- ✚ Percentage increase/decrease in new deaths from the previous week **44.4% increase in deaths compared to last week.**

EDO STATE SITUATION REPORT

Is it safe so say Edo state is winning the war?

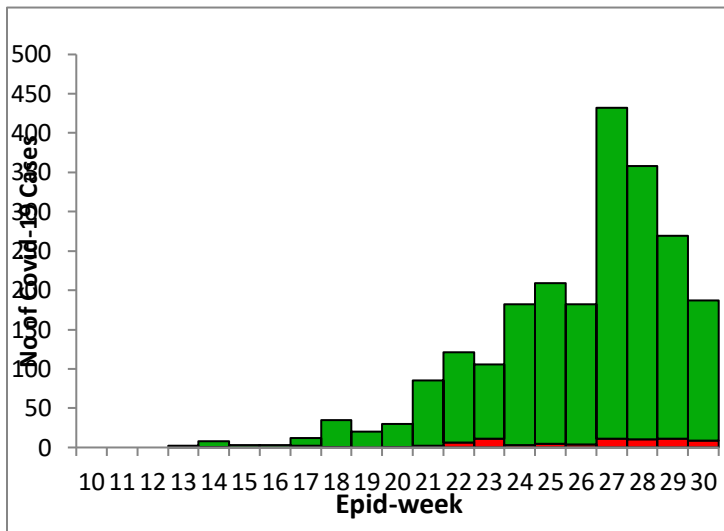
From 6 th March 2020-26 th July 2020	
Total cases	2167
Health care worker cases	372
No of confirmed deaths	77
Deaths in health care workers	0
Case fatality rate	3.6%

✚ For the week- 20 th July-26 th July 2020(epid week 30)	
New cases	178(31% decrease in new cases compared to last week)
Health care worker cases	37
No of confirmed deaths	9(10% decrease in deaths compared to last week)
Deaths in health care workers	0

Since the peak of cases in the 27th week (29th June-5th July), there has been a gradual decline in the number of weekly cases seen in the state. Number of Lgas reporting zero new cases weekly has also increased, with 6 lgas reporting zero weekly cases as at Week 30. Yet seeing the daily and total case count tends can be frightening. Are we actually making progress in the war against COVID or these seemingly small victories are accidental and not representative of what the state has put in place in the fight against COVID.

What can we say is responsible for this decline? Have persons using face masks increased? The enforcement of use of face masks in public places seems to be gaining ground with the “no face mask no entry and no face mask no service “policy standing tall.. Notwithstanding these, many individuals still move freely without using their masks. A noteworthy thing is that the state has been one of the few in the country that has encouraged testing and boosted its testing capacity with centres like ISTH taking the lead in testing. The more you test, the more one is likely to identify positive cases which goes a long way in changing human behavior in terms of willingness to isolate and adhere to precautionary measures which wouldn’t have been possible if the individual was never tested.

Figure 1: Epicurve of Confirmed cases of COVID-19 as at 26th July, 2020



Edo state Episummary of COVID=19

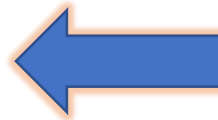
SN.	LGA	NEW CASES	TOTAL CASES
1	Oredo	48	667
2	Egor	39	403
3	Esan West	21	292
4	Ikpoba-Okha	29	253
5	Esan Central	14	179
6	Ovia North East	11	122
7	Esan North East	8	88
8	Etsako West	2	55
9	Ovia South West	1	32
10	Uhunmwode	2	21
11	Etsako East	0	15
12	Esan South East	0	14
13	Akoko-Edo	0	6
14	Etsako Central	1	5
15	Orhionmwon	0	4
16	Owan West	0	4
17	Igueben	2	5
18	Owan East	0	2

ISTH PICTURE VOICE REPORT

Highlights for the week

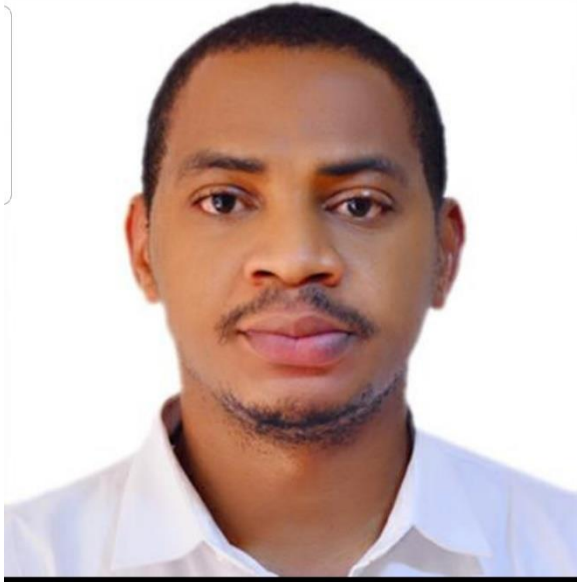


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Ongoing screening exercise at the gate and general outpatient department while ensuring compliance with use of face masks and handwashing.

Meet the frontliners



Dr Joseph Okeoguale is an Obstetrician working at Irrua Specialist Teaching Hospital. He has a flare for infectious diseases in pregnancy and has managed such in the light of VHF's. His experience was brought to bear during this pandemic. He says “ Obstetrics care during this outbreak requires heightened precautions. Infected pregnant women may appear asymptomatic. Symptoms seem masked in pregnancy, often presenting atypically. Our experience with routine testing prior to elective surgery has taught us that the pregnant group deserve special attention, routine screening and creation of specialized maternity care sections for antenatal care of symptomatic women.”



INTEGRATED SOLUTION TO KEEP HEALTH CARE WORKERS SAFE PREPAREDNESS PLAN AND RESPONSE TO COVID-19

A five point strategy is proposed to Protect, Inform, Train, provide minimum working tools and boost the morale of health care workers: {TIP-BOOST STRATEGY}.



Personal protection: PPE (gloves, Medical/Surgical mask, gown and AHR). These items must be available and of the appropriate quality and quantity.

INFORMATION: Provision of timely information on the most recent standards of patient care and surveillance data, new methods of treatment, morbidity and mortality and all other critical information.

TRAINING: Mandatory training and instructions, particularly on basic IPC.

1. *Provide them with the capacity and knowledge of IPC measures in the management of COVID 19 patients*

- a. *Focused IPC training for treatment centre staff and all other staff of ISTH.*

Designation of a full-time staff member as the lead for IPC and preparedness for COVID-19, responsible for the relevant education and training of staff.

b. *IPC trainings for all hospital staff including those in rural practice centres*

TOOLS AND WORK MATERIALS: These include materials that must be provided beginning at the hospital gate and extending up and to the health worker workspace. These include water, materials for hand hygiene (veronica buckets, flowing water, liquid soap, disposable towels, AHR). Other materials include color coded bins to segregate waste, infra red thermometers, scrub suits for workers etc

BOOST MORALE: These relates to psychosocial support, ambience of work space, provision for care of HCWs who contract the virus in the line of duty and includes psychosocial boosters and insurance. Also includes special packages, supplies and privileges.

- Enhance occupational health service for health workers
- *Provide adequate compensation for the services provided by healthcare workers responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in the form of risk premiums and insurance for them and their families and disability benefits for those who contract the infection (Medical care and sickness benefits and Survivors' benefits and funeral expenses)*