

WS 'Long Covid: A Myth or a reality?'
Insights from the PHIRI Network: How
different Countries deal with Long-COVID
related issues and developments

Claudia Habl

Austrian National Public Health Institute (GÖG)

Gesundheit Österreich



EUROPEAN



Research Infrastructure



The Population Health Information Research Infrastructure for COVID-19:

- a European mechanism, that aims to
- facilitate and support data-driven population health research
- and exchange of best practices
- to support decision making

41 30 3 years







REF in numbers (October 2023)



- Total number of countries that have participated in REF-meetings
- Average number of attendees per REF-meeting
- Number of REF-meetings (55 in PHIRI)
- Number of Special REF Editions and Webinars
- Number of country requests and adhoc queries answered
- Total number of answers received by countries to REF-meeting questions, country requests and adhoc queries

31

25

67

7

29

~ 1300



Methodology

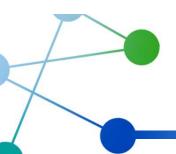
Information on the state-of-play regarding Long COVID (aka post COVID condition) was collected via a PHIRI tool, the so-called **Rapid Exchange Forum (REF)** in 2023 meetings → https://www.healthinformationportal.eu/rapid-exchange-forum

REF is a structured platform for regular personal, quick and structured exchange of evidence-based information, good practices and expertise by fellow countries, policy advisors, commission services and researchers in the joint efforts to manage the COVID-19 pandemic. It increasingly addresses topics beyond COVID-19.

Participants were **ACTORS** from **30** national competent authorities (e.g. MoH, Public Health Institutes), **RESEARCHERS** and **STAKEHOLDERS** from **11** organisations (e.g., ECDC or ELIXIR).







Countries with National Long/Post COVID (LC) Strategies or Action Plans

YES - 7:

BE (by sickness fund concerning reimbursement of expenses), EE (recommendations for family doctors who are main coordinators of LC), DE (guidelines for doctors and patients available and Federal Joint Committee (G-BA) will be mandated to work out a national guideline for an interdisciplinary, coordinated and structured health care for persons with Long COVID until the end of year 202), IT, NO, PL, RO

NO - 10:

AT (but working on it, there is a guideline for doctors available by ÖGAM), FI, HU, IE, LV, MT, PT*, SRB, SI, UK

Information available for 17 countries as of 10 October 2023 (* March 2023).

No information available for 14 countries (AL, BG, BiH, CZ, CY, DK, EL, ES, HR, LT, NL, MD, SE, SK)





Countries with Long/Post COVID Registries

YES - 2

DE (IGES ABC-Registry, out-patient), NO (Beredt C19-preparedness registry)

NO - 16

AL, AT, BE, EE, FI, HU, IE, IT, LV, MT (there is one LC clinic with a registry), NL, PL, RO (working on it), SRB, SI, UK

Information available for 18 countries as of 10 October 2023.

No information available for 13 countries (BG, BiH, CZ, CY, DK, EL, ES, HR, LT, MD, PT, SE, SK)

Some countries mentioned that no central or mandatory registry exists but that there are observational (clinical) studies are ongoing for selected questions (e.g., treatment options).





Countries with Specialised Long COVID Clinics or Health Care Centres

YES - 11

AT, DE, FI, HR*, HU, IE, IT, MT, RO (in some areas), SE, UK (in some areas)

NO - 6
BE, EE, MD, NL (in planning), NO, SRB

Information available for 17 countries as of 24 April 2023 (* 27 Jan 2023).

No information available for 14 countries (AL, BG, BiH, CZ, CY, DK, EL, ES, LV, LT, PL, PT, SK, SI)





Countries with Specialised Long COVID Pathways for Children

YES - 6

BE, EE, HU, IE, NL (there is one specialised clinics for children), UK (in some areas)

NO - 7

AT, FI, DE (but guideline release planned for 31.12.23), IT, NO, RO, SRB

Information available for 13 countries as of 24 April 2023.

No information available for 18 countries (AL, BG, BiH, CZ, CY, DK, EL, ES, HR, LV, LT, MD, MT, PL, PT, SE, SK, SI)





health.gov.mt





Phiri.Austria@goeg.at





www.phiri.eu

