



Webinar on Challenges Facing the COVID-19 Pandemic: Thursday, 2nd April 2020

12 – 1:30 PM Jerusalem time (GMT+2)

The Middle East Consortium on Infectious Disease Surveillance (MECIDS), is a trilateral, non-official organization that was formed in 2002 by leading public health officials and academics from Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian Authority. MECIDS is a platform and source of expertise for cross-border collaboration and response to the current threats of COVID-19 pandemic.

Register here: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_6YjoSC4TT52DqgMDTPj39w

Time	Topic
12:00-12:05	Introduction Dr. Marlo Libel Ending Pandemics, San Francisco, USA
12:05-12:50	MECIDS as a platform to address emerging infectious diseases The Israeli experience facing COVID-19 pandemic Prof. Daniel Cohen Chair of MECIDS and acting head of School of Public Health, Tel Aviv University, Israel
	The Jordanian experience facing COVID-19 pandemic Dr. Sami Sheikh Ali The Communicable Diseases Directorate, Ministry of Health, Jordan
	The Palestinian experience facing COVID-19 pandemic Prof. Ziad Abdeen Al Quds University, East Jerusalem
	Rapid response in the diagnostics/detection- Laboratory preparedness Prof. Ella Mendelson and Dr. Orna Mor The Central Virology Laboratory, Ministry of Health and School of Public Health, Tel Aviv University, Israel
	The non-medical burden of COVID-19 pandemic Dr. Bruria Adini Department of Emergency Management and Disaster Medicine, School of Public Health, Tel Aviv University, Israel
12:50-13:05	Panel discussion Dr. Dorit Nitzan Coordinator of Health Emergencies at World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe Dr. Silvia Bino Southeast European Center for Surveillance and Control of Infectious Diseases South (SECID) Prof. Manfred Green School of Public Health, University of Haifa, Israel
13:05-13:25	Questions and answers
13:25-13:30	Closing remarks Prof. Daniel Cohen



The Organizing Committee

Prof. Daniel Cohen, *MECIDS and School of Public Health, Tel Aviv University, Israel*

Prof. Khitam Muhsen, *MECIDS and School of Public Health, Tel Aviv University, Israel*

Dr. Sami Sheikh Ali, *MECIDS and Communicable Diseases Directorate, Ministry of Health, Jordan*

Prof. Ziad Abdeen, *MECIDS and Al-Quds University, East Jerusalem*

Dr. Ruti Yishai *MECIDS and Ministry of Health, Israel*

Dr. Marlo Libel, *Ending Pandemics, San Francisco, USA*

Prof. Laura Chyu, *University of San Francisco, San Francisco, USA*

Sari Hussein, *MECIDS Executive Officer*

Dr. Sayed Zarif Akbari, *University of San Francisco, San Francisco, USA*

Himanshi Kalpesh Mehta, *University of San Francisco, San Francisco, USA*

Saritte Perlman, *School of Public Health, Tel Aviv University, Israel*

Carol Wong, *University of San Francisco, San Francisco, USA*

Carolina Echeverriam, *University of San Francisco, San Francisco, USA*

Jack Barokas, *Tel Aviv University, Israel*

Anna Tombs, *CORDS, the UK*



Learning Guide

The following reading material can serve as a good background for the webinar

COVID-19

Murthy S, Gomersall CD, Fowler RA. Care for Critically Ill Patients With COVID-19. *JAMA*. 2020 Mar 11. doi: 10.1001/jama.2020.3633

Wang W, Xu Y, Gao R, Lu R, Han K, Wu G, Tan W. Detection of SARS-CoV-2 in Different Types of Clinical Specimens. *JAMA*. 2020 Mar 11. doi: 10.1001/jama.2020.3786.

Sharfstein JM, Becker SJ, Mello MM. Diagnostic Testing for the Novel Coronavirus. *JAMA*. 2020 Mar 9. doi: 10.1001/jama.2020.3864.

Arentz M, Yim E, Klaff L, Lokhandwala S, Riedo FX, Chong M, Lee M. Characteristics and Outcomes of 21 Critically Ill Patients With COVID-19 in Washington State. *JAMA*. 2020 Mar 19. doi: 10.1001/jama.2020.4326

McCloskey B, Zumla A, Ippolito G, Blumberg L, Arbon P, Cicero A, Endericks T, Lim PL, Borodina M; WHO Novel Coronavirus-19 Mass Gatherings Expert Group. Mass gathering events and reducing further global spread of COVID-19: a political and public health dilemma. *Lancet*. 2020 Mar 20. pii: S0140-6736(20)30681-4. doi: 10.1016/S0140-6736(20)30681-4.

Dong E, Du H, Gardner L. An interactive web-based dashboard to track COVID-19 in real time. *Lancet Infect Dis*. 2020 Feb 19. pii: S1473-3099(20)30120-1. doi: 10.1016/S1473-3099(20)30120-1

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/cases-updates/summary.html>

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/novel-coronavirus-china>

<https://coronavirus.jhu.edu/map.html>

MECIDS

Leventhal A, Ramlawi A, Belbiesi A, Sheikh S, Haddadin A, Hussein S, Abdeen Z, Cohen D. Enhanced surveillance for detection and management of infectious diseases: regional collaboration in the middle East. *Emerg Health Threats J*. 2013;6. doi: 10.3402/ehth.v6i0.19955.

Cohen D, Gargouri N, Ramlawi A, Abdeen Z, Belbesi A, Al Hijawi B, Haddadin A, Sheikh Ali S, Al Shuaibi N, Bassal R, Yishai R, Green MS, Leventhal A. A Middle East subregional laboratory-based surveillance network on foodborne diseases established by Jordan, Israel, and the Palestinian Authority. *Epidemiol Infect*. 2010 Oct;138(10):1443-8. doi: 10.1017/S0950268810000270.

Gresham L, Ramlawi A, Briski J, Richardson M, Taylor T. Trust across borders: responding to 2009 H1N1 influenza in the Middle East. *Biosecur Bioterror*. 2009 Dec;7(4):399-404. doi: 10.1089/bsp.2009.0034.

Leventhal A, Ramlawi A, Belbiesi A, Balicer RD. Regional collaboration in the Middle East to deal with H5N1 avian flu. *BMJ*. 2006 Oct 21;333(7573):856-8.