

COVID-19 Associated Hospitalization and Death

INCLUDES: Hospitalized cases and deaths caused by SARS-CoV-2

EXCLUDES: Non-hospitalized COVID-19 cases and seasonal (non-pandemic) coronavirus (SARS-CoV, COV-NL63, CoV-229E, CoV-OC43, and CoV-HKU1, etc.) cases; hospitalizations for reasons other than COVID-19 (even with a positive test)

Clinical Description:

An illness with acute onset or worsening of any cough; shortness of breath; difficulty breathing; olfactory disorder; taste disorder; confusion or change in mental status; persistent pain or pressure in the chest; pale, grey, or blue-colored skin, lips, or nail beds (depending on skin tone); inability to wake or stay awake; clinical radiographic evidence of pneumonia; or acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)

Critical Reporting Elements and Comments:

- Document if the patient was hospitalized, including admission and discharge dates, place of hospital admission, and clinical course.
- Document if the patient died, including the date of death.
- Document if the patient works in, lives in, or attends a high-transmission setting such as, daycare, school, group living, health care, training center, or ship.
- Document if the patient has any relevant comorbidities, underlying illnesses, or is otherwise immunocompromised (e.g., via immunocompromising medications).
- Document if the patient was vaccinated for SARS-CoV-2, vaccine manufacturer, and date(s) of vaccination.
- Specify the variant, if known.
- Hospitalization is defined as an admission to an inpatient ward of a hospital, or a medical transfer or evacuation to a facility with a higher level of care. Patients admitted for observation and discharged the same day are considered hospitalized for this case definition. An overnight stay is not required. Emergency room or outpatient clinic visits that do not result in hospital admission are not considered hospitalizations.
- Cases that are hospitalized for other reasons (e.g., childbirth, surgery) with an incidental COVID-19 positive test do not meet this case definition and, therefore, are not reportable.

