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**EMBL-EBI launches COVID-19 Data Portal**

*EMBL-EBI and collaborators launch the COVID-19 Data Portal to help scientists, public health and healthcare professionals tackle the coronavirus pandemic*

**Summary**

- EMBL-EBI launches the COVID-19 Data Portal

- The portal enables sharing and analysis of COVID-19 data generated in Europe and the rest of the world
- The portal also makes it easier for scientists, public health and healthcare professionals to collaborate, which will help accelerate the development of diagnostics, treatment and vaccines

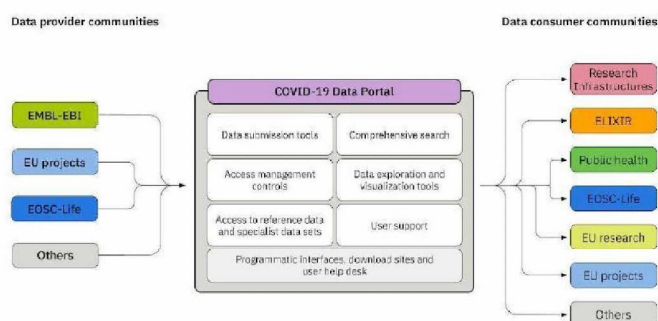
20 April, Cambridge – EMBL’s European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI) and collaborators today launched the [COVID-19 Data Portal](#), which enables the sharing and analysis of data related to the new coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2. The initiative aims to facilitate international collaboration to accelerate scientific discovery, monitor the pandemic and help develop treatments and a vaccine for the new coronavirus.

### An international effort

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, thousands of researchers across the globe have been working tirelessly to study the new coronavirus. They have generated an enormous amount of information, but until now there has been no central repository for this information.

The COVID-19 Data Portal addresses this need, creating a shared space where data about the new coronavirus can be stored, shared and analysed using tools developed by EMBL-EBI and the wider scientific community.

“No single institute or country can tackle this pandemic,” explains 5.1.2e Director of EMBL-EBI. “ We have to work together and share data in an open, sustainable and smart way. As the home for the world’s biological data, EMBL-EBI is well placed to develop a data-sharing infrastructure for COVID-19, but we need the help of collaborators in Europe and around the world to grow this new portal.”



*Caption: The COVID-19 Data Portal provides a shared space for data submitters and data users to rapidly access COVID-19 related data.*

## A multitude of data types

Currently, the COVID-19 Data Portal includes datasets from the following EMBL-EBI data resources:

- [European Nucleotide Archive \(ENA\)](#)
- [UniProt](#)
- [Protein Data Bank in Europe \(PDBe\)](#)
- [Electron Microscopy Data Bank \(EMDB\)](#)
- [Expression Atlas](#)
- [Europe PMC](#)

These resources cover a wide range of data types including genomic, protein and microscopy data, as well as scientific literature.

In the coming weeks, the portal will also include genomic data from the outbreak and a dedicated Cohort Browser for searching clinical and epidemiological data.

“Users can upload their SARS-CoV-2 data and get access to data from other sources around the world,” says 5.1.2e, 5.1.2e

5.1.2e “We’re working hard to make the portal intuitive and easy to use. The portal also features data analysis and visualisation tools to help interpret the data.”

Data type	What does it allow us to do?
Genomic data (viral and human)	Understand the biology of the virus Monitor the spread of infection
Protein structure and function data	Understand how the virus interacts with other molecules Identify potential treatments and vaccine
Microscopy data	Understand the biology of the virus Understand how the virus interacts with other molecules
Proteomics data	Understand the biology of the virus
Metabolomics data	Identify potential treatments and vaccine
Chemical compound and	Identify potential treatments and vaccine

drug target data	
Gene expression data	Understand the biology of the virus
Clinical data	Understand how human body reacts to the infection Observe how the virus is changing
Epidemiological data	Monitor the spread of infection
Scientific literature	See what experiments have already taken place and what they found

### Ramping up efforts

In the coming weeks and months, additional datasets and tools from other European projects will be added to the COVID-19 Data Portal. With the help of ELIXIR, the intergovernmental organisation that brings together life science data and resources from across Europe, and with the help of other collaborators, the COVID-19 Data Portal will continue to grow.

"Science, public health and healthcare have to work together if we want to minimise the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic," says 5.1.2e, 5.1.2e

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5.1.2e "We are hoping that this initiative will enable researchers, clinicians and public health workers to safely and efficiently share their data in order to come up with answers to the most pressing questions about COVID-19."

The current collaborators on the COVID-19 Data Portal so far include:

- [Erasmus Medical Centre](#) (Netherlands)
- [Technical University of Denmark](#)
- [Eötvös Loránd University](#) (Hungary)
- [National Institute for Public Health and the Environment](#) (Netherlands)
- [Universitätsklinikum Heidelberg](#) (Germany)

### Part of a wider European response

The COVID-19 Data Portal is the entry point to the wider [European COVID-19 Data Platform](#) initiative, which involves the creation of multiple SARS-CoV-2 Data Hubs. These hubs are currently being built and, once ready, will organise the flow of sequence data from the outbreak and provide comprehensive open data sharing for the European and global research communities accessible through the Data Portal.

"Launching the European COVID-19 Data Platform is an important concrete measure for stronger cooperation in fighting the coronavirus," says 5.1.2e

5.1.2e 5.1.2e “Building on our dedicated support for open science and open access over the years, now is the time to step up our efforts and stand united with our researchers. Through our joint efforts, we will better understand, diagnose and eventually overpower the pandemic.”

Both the European COVID-19 Data Portal and the SARS-CoV-2 Data Hubs will use already established EMBL-EBI data infrastructures, including the [Pathogen Portal](#) and the [European Nucleotide Archive \(ENA\)](#). The latter is part of the [COMPARE Data Hubs](#), which provide pathogen-focused data sharing and analysis tools, and will be connected to the [European Open Science Cloud \(EOSC\)](#).

The European COVID-19 Data Platform is one of the ten projects included in the first iteration of the [ERAvsCORONA Action Plan](#) launched by the European Commission.

“We need Open Science now more than ever before,” says 5.1.2e, Head of the Open Science Unit of the European Commission. Sharing data and knowledge at such an unprecedented speed will help us win the battle against the pandemic. We are very happy to work with EMBL-EBI and the other partners in this common effort.”

## Find out more

Explore the [COVID-19 Data Portal](#) to see the available data and how you can submit data.

Read an overview of the wider [European COVID-19 Data Platform](#) initiative.

Find out more about why data sharing is important during a pandemic.

## Image

Credit: 5.1.2e / EMBL-EBI