Information services continuity during the COVID-19 pandemics

Lessons learned from KCE (March 2020-October 2021)

PLAN

1. **Introduction**
2. **Impact on KCE**
3. **Impact on the Librarian**
4. **Impact on the Information specialist**
5. **Discussion and conclusion**

1. INTRODUCTION

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KCE

Federaal Kenniscentrum voor de Gezondheidszorg
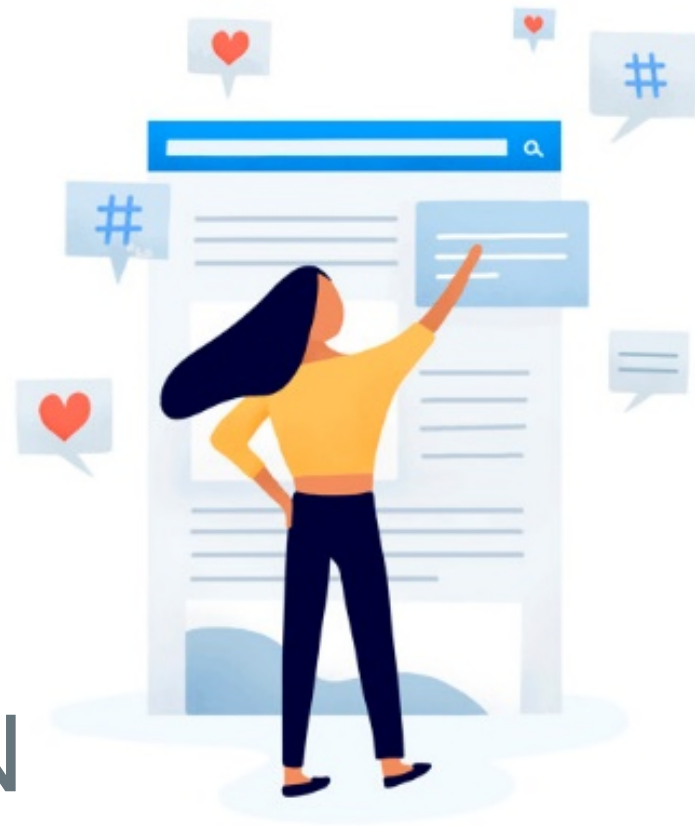**Centre Fédéral d'Expertise des Soins de Santé**
Belgian Health Care Knowledge Centre

Federal Public Interest Organisation Established in 2003
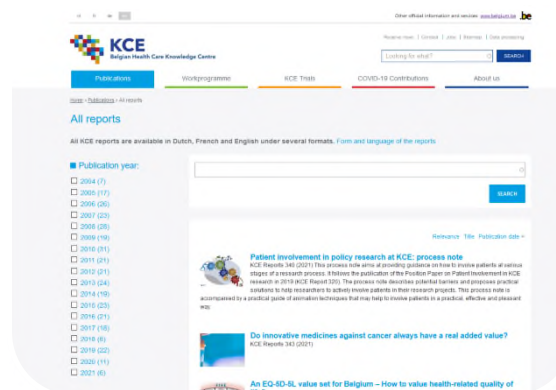
Member of the Federal Health Research System

- FOD-SPF
- HGR-CSS
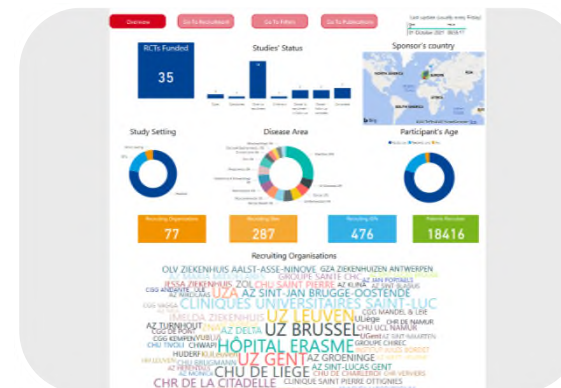- KCE
- RIZIV-INAMI
- Sciensano

Research

- Evidence-based Practice (EBP-GCP)
- Health Services Research (HSR)
- Health Technology Assessment (HTA)
- Methods
- Dissemination

343
Published reports
since 2004

Trials

- Publically funded
- Non commercial
- Practice-oriented

35
Funded clinical trials
since 2016

Home working – as is

Home working

- 1 day / week for the majority
- 2 days / week for some

IT Infrastructure

- Laptop computer
- Virtual Private Network (VPN)
- Web conferencing tool

KCE tools for continuity

KM – PnO tools
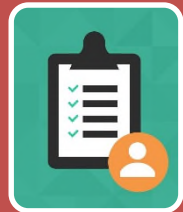
Function description	
Survival kit role / team w/ backup	
Procedures	

IT tools

Generic mailboxes	
Keepass for departments	

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KCE library - public

72
People

47
Researchers

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KCE library - services

3500+

Books

- Buy as you need
- Preferred location is expert's office

100+

Bibliographical databases

- Subscriptions: Cinahl, Cochrane, EconLit, Embase, MedLine, PsychInfo, Sociological abstracts, …

VDIC

Vesalius Documentation and Information Center

10.000+

Journals

- Subscriptions: BMJ, Health Economics, Quality of life Research, …

CEBAM Digital Library for Health (CDLH)

Articles

- On demand
- ILL, Pay per View

University of Liège – Life Sciences Library
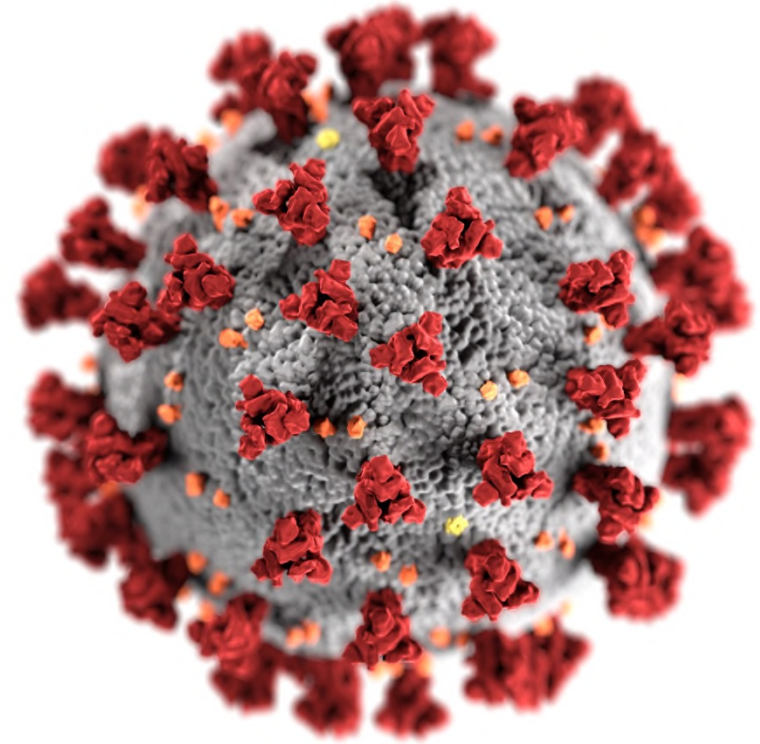
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Milestones COVID-19 in Belgium

4 February 2020 — First reported case in Belgium

14 March 2020 — First measures of the Federal government — Home working recommended where feasible

16 March 2020 — All KCE employees work from home

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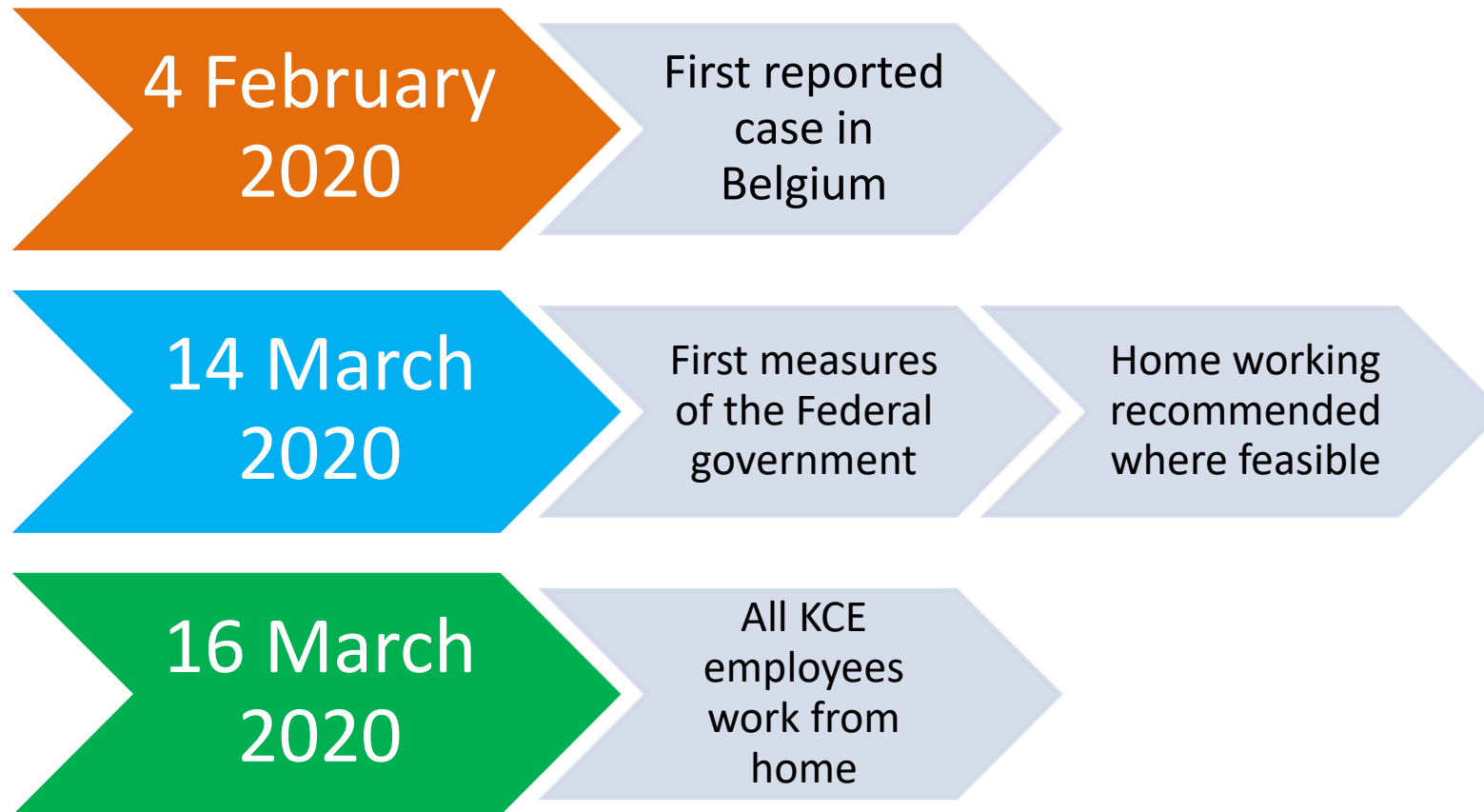
COVID-19 response @KCE

Research

1. Medical interventions that spread aerosols
2. Tromboprophylaxis
3. Transmission of the coronavirus by children
4. International comparison of testing and contact tracing strategies
5. Management of post-intensive care syndrome (PICS) for general practitioners
6. Outpatient care for Covid-19 patients in the context of saturation in Belgian hospitals
7. Needs and follow-up of long-term COVID-19 patients (ongoing study)
8. Prevention of the post-intensive care syndrome (PICS) (ongoing study)
9. Risk-benefit model for TTS events applied to the Johnson & Johnson vaccine
10. Rapid review of the evidence on a COVID-19 booster dose after a primary vaccination schedule
11. Vaccination coverage of staff in Belgian hospitals and nursing homes against COVID-19

International collaboration

1. European Observatory on Health systems and Policies: Policy responses to the crisis
2. EUnetHTA COVID-19 response - Rolling Collaborative Reviews on COVID-19 (camostat & nafamostat)
3. EUnetHTA Rapid Collaborative Review (diagnostic methods)
4. Participation in the Scientific Advisory Board EU-RESPONSE

Trials

1. **COV-AID** (combinations of drugs blocking interleukin 1 and 6)
2. **DAWN-plasma** (administration of plasma from patients cured of COVID-19 to hospitalized patients)
3. **DAWN Camostat** (efficacy of Camostat for COVID-19 patients presenting to ambulatory care)
4. **CONFIDENT** (administration of plasma from patients cured of COVID-19 to intensive care patients)
5. **DisCoVeRy** (participation in the international study coordinated by INSERM - France)
6. **IMCOVAS** (assessment of different vaccines schedules for 3 vaccines against COVID-19 (Pfizer, Moderna and AstraZeneca))

3. IMPACT ON THE LIBRARIAN

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Standard services (1)

Stopped

- Access to paper resources
- Paper journals preparation

Maintained

- Access to electronic resources
- Articles copies delivery

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Standard services (2)

Adjusted

- **Monograph delivery**
  - At home

- **External researchers request**
  - Database search based on expert strategy

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NEW SERVICES (1)
Alert on pre-print articles & clinical studies

NEW !

bioRxiv

+

medRxiv

+

Anticancer fund registry

List of references

@

Experts KCE

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NEW SERVICES (1)
List of COVID-19 resources

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4. IMPACT ON THE INFORMATION SPECIALIST

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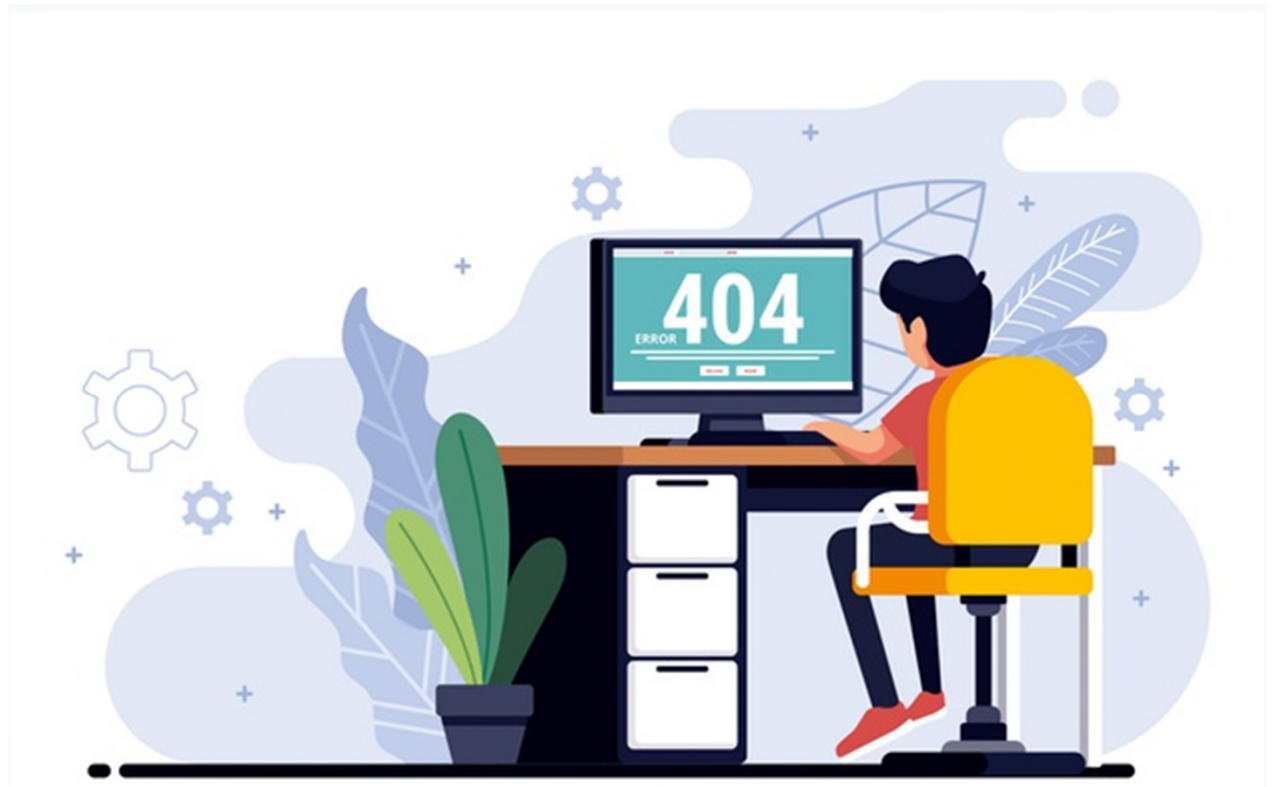
Monitoring of generic search strategies

	"COVID-19" Embase.com (2020-03-30)
#1	wuhan:ab,ti,kw AND (pneumonia:ab,ti OR 'lung disease':ab,ti) AND 2020:py
#2	hubei:ab,ti,kw AND (pneumonia:ab,ti OR 'lung disease':ab,ti) AND 2020:py
#3	'covid 19*':ab,ti,kw
#4	'covid 2019*':ab,ti,kw
#5	'covid2019*':ab,ti,kw
#6	'covid19*':ab,ti,kw
#7	'ncov 2019*':ab,ti,kw
#8	'ncov 19*':ab,ti,kw
#9	'2019-ncov':ab,ti,kw
#10	'19-ncov':ab,ti,kw
#11	'sars-cov-19':ti,ab,kw
#12	'sars-cov-2019':ti,ab,kw
#13	'sars-cov-2':ti,ab,kw
#14	#3 OR #4 OR #5 OR #6 OR #7 OR #8 OR #9 OR #10 OR #11 OR #12 OR #13
#15	#14 AND 2020:py
#16	(((new OR novel OR newly OR emerging) NEAR/3 virus):ab,ti,kw) AND pneumonia:ab,ti,kw AND 2020:py
#17	coronavirus:ab,ti,kw AND 2020:py
#18	'corona virus':ab,ti,kw AND 2020:py
#19	(((outbreak OR surge) NEAR/3 pneumonia):ab,ti,kw) AND china:ab,ti,kw AND 2020:py
#20	#1 OR #2 OR #15 OR #16 OR #17 OR #18 OR #19
#21	('coronavirinae'/exp OR 'coronavirinae' OR 'coronaviridae infection'/exp OR 'coronaviridae infection' OR 'coronavirus disease 2019'/exp OR 'coronavirus'/exp OR 'coronavirus infection'/de) AND 2020:py
#22	#20 OR #21

Nota: Lines #21 et #22 can be removed to enhance specificity with impacting sensitivity too much.
Source: Adapted from a search strategy shared through EAHIL

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Monitoring of thesaurus updates

Concept	MeSH term (entry date)	Emtree term (entry date)
Virus	severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (14/01/2020)	Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (2020)
Disease	COVID-19 (13/02/2020)	coronavirus disease 2019 (2020)
Detection	COVID-19 diagnostic testing (26/03/2020)	
Prevention	COVID-19 vaccine (26/03/2020)	
Treatement	COVID-19 serotherapy (28/03/2020) COVID-19 drug treatment (28/03/2020)	

Nouveaux concepts ajoutés aux thesaurus de bases de données bibliographiques biomédicales (consultés le 17/08/2020)
Légende : MeSH (Medical Subject Headings) : thesaurus de la base bibliographique MedLine ; Emtree : thesaurus de la base bibliographique Embase

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Development of generic search strategies

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews	Embase (Embase.com)	MedLine (OVID)
("covid19" or "covid2019" or "covid-19" or "covid-2019" or "ncov-2019" or "ncov-19" or "2019-ncov" or "19-ncov" or "sars-cov-19" or "sars-cov-2" or "sars-cov2" or "novel coronavirus"):ab,ti	covid19:ab,ti,kw OR covid2019:ab,ti,kw OR 'covid 19':ab,ti,kw OR 'covid 2019':ab,ti,kw OR 'ncov 2019':ab,ti,kw OR 'ncov 19':ab,ti,kw OR '2019 ncov':ab,ti,kw OR '19 ncov':ab,ti,kw OR 'sars cov 19':ab,ti,kw OR 'sars cov 2':ab,ti,kw OR 'sars cov2':ab,ti,kw OR 'novel coronavirus':ab,ti,kw	(covid19 or covid2019 or covid-19 or covid-2019 or ncov-2019 or ncov-19 or 2019-ncov or 19-ncov or sars-cov-19 or sars-cov-2 or sars-cov2 or novel coronavirus).ab,ti,kf

.ab = abstract ; .ti = title ; kw = keywords ; .kf = Keyword Heading Word

Source: Jespers V., Roberfroid D. Aerosol generating procedures. COVID-19 - KCE Contributions: 2021-04-09

Development of specific search strategies

|	"long-covid" OVID Medline (2021-05-03)
1	covid*.mp. (126954)
2	sars-cov*.mp. (82940)
3	ncov*.mp. (1926)
4	"coronavirus disease 2019".mp. (24078)
5	"severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2".mp. (13292)
6	1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 (134025)
7	chronic*.mp. (1460949)
8	complicat*.mp. (3313678)
9	continu*.mp. (1155168)
10	linger*.mp. (2871)
11	long*.mp. (2393207)
12	ongoing.mp. (172609)
13	persist*.mp. (502688)
14	post*.mp. (3004174)
15	prolong*.mp. (395726)
16	recurr*.mp. (739192)
17	sequel*.mp. (80497)
18	surviv*.mp. (1514255)
19	7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 or 12 or 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 (10380017)
20	6 and 19 (47717)
21	((covid* or sars-cov* or ncov* or "coronavirus disease 2019" or "severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2") adj2 (chronic* or complicat* or continu* or linger* or long* or ongoing or persist* or post* or prolong* or recurr* or sequel* or surviv*)).mp. (5646)

Additional sources and controls
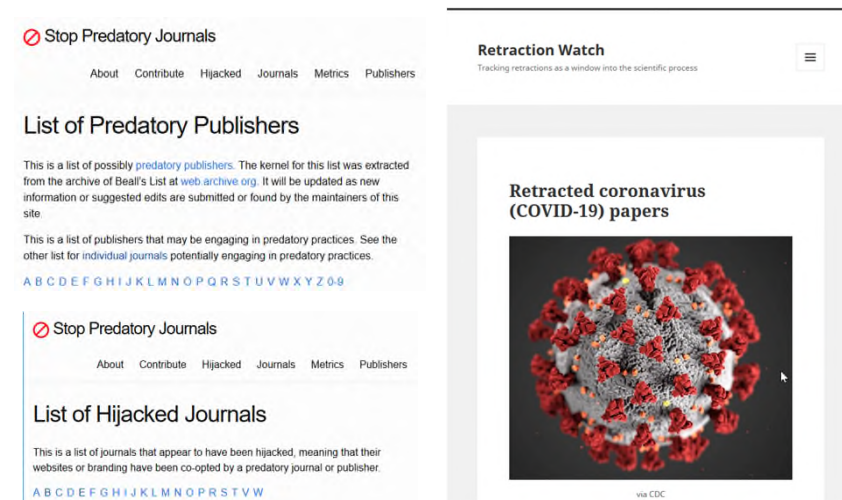
e.g. Study 2020-04 Long COVID

Pre-Print servers

- **Coronacentral**
- **EuropePMC**
- **SciLit**
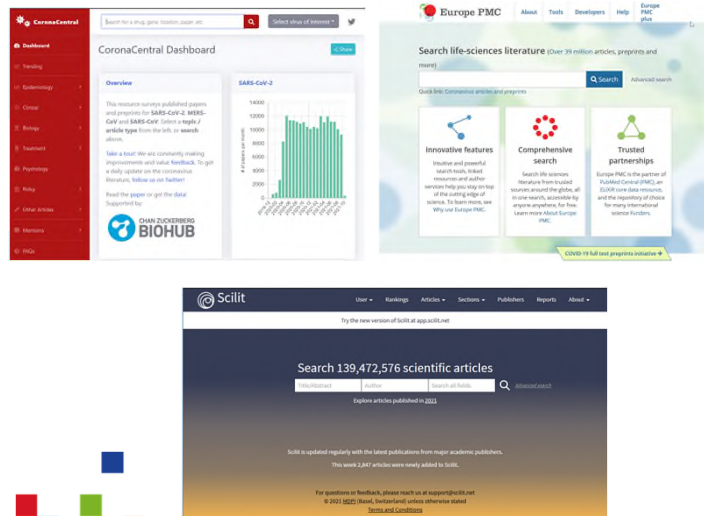
Quality control

- **Predatory publishers**
- **Hijacked journals**
- **Retraction watch**

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5. DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

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Impact on … live congress

21/10/2021

08/06/2021

11/03/2021

14/01/2021

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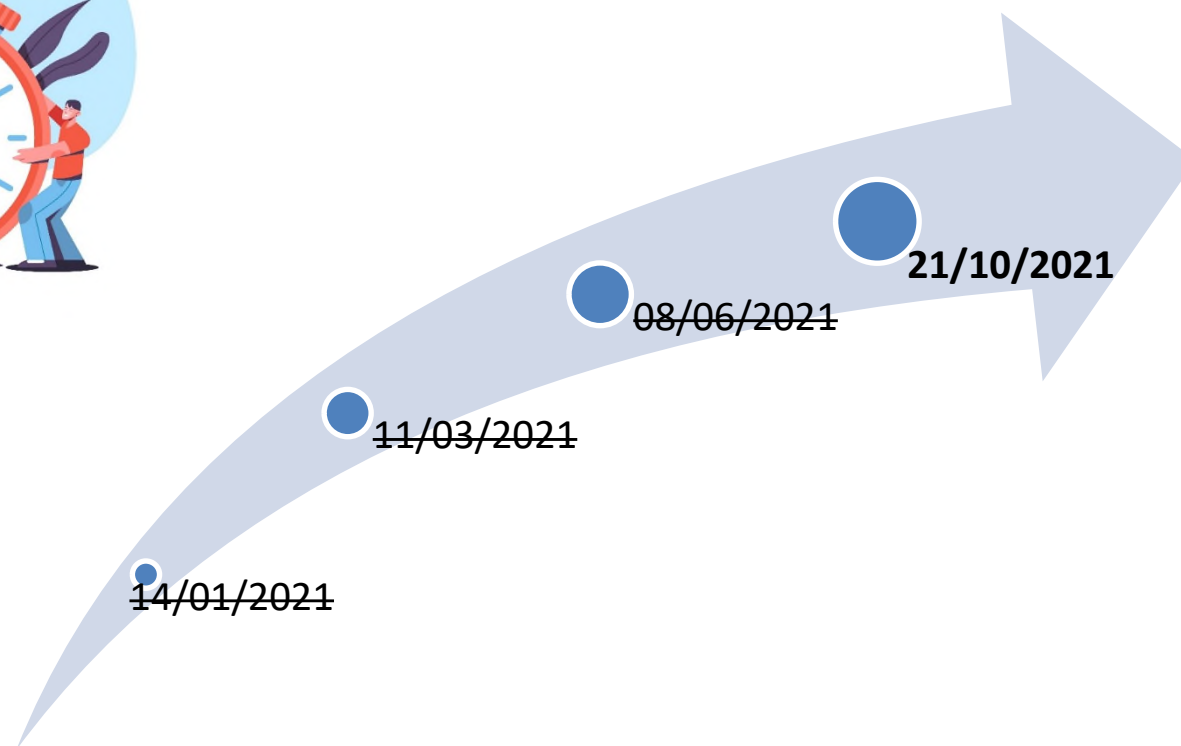
Impact on continuity

Infrastructure

Rules

Culture

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Impact on library services

Collections	• Backlog to manage
List of resources	• Last update: 2020-09-21 • 33 recently updated, 39 old or no update date, 7 not active
Bibliography	• Still updated and distributed
Study registers	• Anticancer fund registry stopped 2020-08-20 and refers to other products

Impact on colleagues

Home working – to be

- Up to 3 days / week

Prevention

- Pay attention to well being

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Impact on… on site working

Date	Details
13/03/2020	• Forbidden
03/06/2020	• Not mandatory • 6 people / floor • 2 days / week max
25/06/2020	• Not mandatory • 10 people / floor • 3 days / week max
01/09/2021	• Not mandatory • 15 people / floor • 2 days / week max
01/10/2021	• Not mandatory • Unlimited people • 1-2 days/week recommended

Barriers to access knowledge

Off site access

- Petition

Subscription based access

- Timely free access

Slowness peer reviewing

- Preprint servers
- Fast track

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Conclusions

Ensuring the continuity of accesses to the library collections is essential

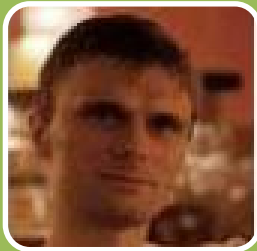**Electronic collections and IT infrastructure may facilitate such continuity**

In a crisis situation, barriers to access to knowledge must be removed

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Thank you!

Luc HOURLAY: Information manager

- Resources access management

Nicolas FAIRON: Information specialist

- Support for literature retrieval

Patrice CHALON: Knowledge manager
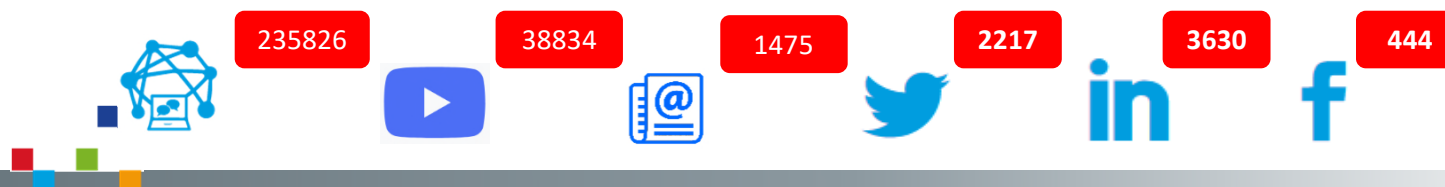
- Support for work procedure and continuity

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Further readings

- **Bladen voor Documentatie 2020/3 (december 2020) Under Press. https://www.abd-bvd.be/nl/publicaties/bladen-voor-documentatie/**

- **Dag van de federale bibliothecaris 2020 https://bibforum.fgov.be/**

- **Journal of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries JEAHIL (Vol16, n°3) http://ojs.eahil.eu/ojs/index.php/JEAHIL/issue/view/1**

Useful links

- **https://kce.fgov.be/en/covid-19-contributions**

- **https://kce.docressources.info/index.php?lvl=cmspage&pageid=6&id_rubrique=137**

- **https://predatoryjournals.com/**

- **https://retractionwatch.com/**

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235826   38834   1475   2217   3630   444

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Chalon Patrice, Hourlay Luc, Nicolas Fairon. Information services continuity during the COVID-19 pandemics: *Lessons learned from KCE (March 2020-October 2021). Felnet - COVID-19 infecteert I&D, 2021-10-21, Brussels, Belgium.*

Images credits

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:COVID-19#/media/File:SARS-CoV-2_(CDC-23312).png
- https://www.creativecommons.org/
- https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/cloud-computing_356490
- https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/open-lock_598630
- https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/reader_4213477
- https://www.freepik.com/free-photo/hand-holding-question-mark_3478959.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/certified-checkmark-tick-rubber-stamp-set-design_8866005.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/content-editor-editing-feed-vector_3780783.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/error-404-concept-landing-page_5060706.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/group-therapy-illustration_8271022.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/isometric-books-reading-composition-with-people-educational-literature-ebook-reader-electronic-library-phone-laptop-isolated_10055561.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/male-cartoon-office-worker-with-high-low-battery_18733899.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/manager-prioritizing-tasks-list_7732645.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/organization-flat-icon_4167280.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/people-library-flat-vector-illustration_9176169.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/telecommuting-concept_7533433.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/telecommuting-concept_7533433.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/telecommuting-concept-with-woman_7333717.htm
- https://www.freepik.com/free-vector/time-management-concept_14449321.htm

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