

*Disclaimer: We kindly ask to acknowledge that due to the diverse and heterogeneous nature of the questions and dynamic situations they pertain to, some of the information might be incomplete or only correct for the time being. Thus, please consider the date and date of last update with the below information. All available information was provided by a country representative from the PHIRI network during or in connection to the respective meeting.*

Date: 05.06.2023

Table 1: Country responses – National action plan on postviral / postinfectious syndromes

Country	<b>Topic: National action plan on postviral / postinfectious syndromes</b> <b>Does your country have a national action plan or similar strategic policy papers regarding postviral / postinfectious syndromes (in general or associated with specific pathogens, e.g. Long COVID)? We are interested in documents that cover aspects such as care pathways, healthcare planning and financing, data collection and registries, research, awareness raising and others. Please provide links to the relevant documents or websites?</b>
Austria	There is currently no National Action Plan regarding postviral syndromes in Austria, but efforts to create one are underway. We do have a clinical guideline for the treatment of Long COVID, which includes recommendations regarding the care pathway (in German: <a href="https://oegam.at/longcovid">https://oegam.at/longcovid</a> ). The Guideline is currently being updated.
Belgium	In Belgium, the treatment and the reimbursement for Long COVID is organized by INAMI, the National Institute for Sickness and Invalidity Insurance. Two types of treatment are possible depending on the needs of the patient: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– A monodisciplinary treatment if you need a single healthcare provider (speech therapist, physiotherapist, psychologist)</li> <li>– Multidisciplinary treatment if you need more than one provider (physiotherapist, speech therapist, psychologist, neuropsychologist, dietitian and/or occupational therapist). A care coordinator may be appointed within the team.</li> </ul> For more details and documentation, please consult <a href="https://www.inami.fgov.be/fr/themes/cout-remboursement/maladies/Pages/post-covid-remboursement-soins-1re-ligne-symptomes-persistants.aspx#Dur%C3%A9e+de+cette+convention+Post-COVID-19">https://www.inami.fgov.be/fr/themes/cout-remboursement/maladies/Pages/post-covid-remboursement-soins-1re-ligne-symptomes-persistants.aspx#Dur%C3%A9e de cette convention Post-COVID-19</a>
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long Covid: on December 2021, the Istituto Superiore di Sanità-ISS launched a project financed by the Center for Disease Prevention and Control-CCM of the Ministry of Health 'Analysis and response strategies to the long-term effects of the Covid-19 infection (Long-Covid)', with the aim of monitoring the pathology Long-Covid, which develops following the SARS-CoV-2 infection, of studying the characteristics and dimensions of the phenomenon and above all of standardising the treatment approach of patients (in English language at <a href="https://www.iss.it/en/long-covid-obbiettivi-progetto">https://www.iss.it/en/long-covid-obbiettivi-progetto</a> and in Italian language at <a href="https://www.iss.it/documents/20126/0/File+centri+censimento+per+sito+14+giugno.pdf/4761fafa-e20e-4178-a597-061facbd3052?t=1655214298429">https://www.iss.it/documents/20126/0/File+centri+censimento+per+sito+14+giugno.pdf/4761fafa-e20e-4178-a597-061facbd3052?t=1655214298429</a>);</li> <li>• Flu pandemic: The State-Regions Conference in its session of 25 January 2021 sanctioned the agreement, pursuant to article 4 of the legislative decree 28 August 1997, n. 281, between the Government, the Regions and the autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano, on the 'National strategic-operational plan for preparation and response to an influenza pandemic' (PanFlu 2021-2023; <a href="https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_pubblicazioni_3005_allegato.pdf">https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_pubblicazioni_3005_allegato.pdf</a>; <a href="https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/influenza/dettaglioContenutiInfluenza.jsp?id=722&amp;area=influenza&amp;menu=vuoto">https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/influenza/dettaglioContenutiInfluenza.jsp?id=722&amp;area=influenza&amp;menu=vuoto</a>). The PanFlu 2021-2023 replaces the previous 'National strategic-operational plan for preparation and response to an influenza pandemic' that was elaborated and published in 2006, bot in Italian and English language (<a href="https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/influenza/dettaglioPubblicazioniInfluenza.jsp?id=501">https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/influenza/dettaglioPubblicazioniInfluenza.jsp?id=501</a>)</li> <li>• InFluNet surveillance system: The InFluNet surveillance system is based on a network of sentinel doctors made up of General Practitioners (GPs) and Free Choice Pediatricians (PLS), recruited by the Regions, who report cases of flu-like syndrome (ILI) observed among assisted them. Sentinel doctors and other doctors working in the area and in hospitals also collaborate in the collection of biological samples for the identification of circulating viruses (<a href="https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/influenza/dettaglioContenutiInfluenza.jsp?lingua=italiano&amp;id=704&amp;area=influenza&amp;menu=vuotosorveglianza">https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/influenza/dettaglioContenutiInfluenza.jsp?lingua=italiano&amp;id=704&amp;area=influenza&amp;menu=vuotosorveglianza</a>)</li> <li>• HIV and AIDS: The National Plan of Interventions against HIV and AIDS (PNAIDS) represents the programmatic document aimed at countering the spread of the HIV infection. Provided for by Law 135/90, the plan contemplates the implementation of multi-year interventions concerning prevention, information, research, assistance and treatment, epidemiological surveillance and support for voluntary work</li> </ul>



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101018317

www.phiri.eu

Gesundheit Österreich  
GmbH

	<p>(<a href="https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/hiv/dettaglioContenutiHIV.jsp?lingua=italiano&amp;id=5213&amp;area=aids&amp;menu=vuoto">https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/hiv/dettaglioContenutiHIV.jsp?lingua=italiano&amp;id=5213&amp;area=aids&amp;menu=vuoto</a>). The complete document of the Plan is available, in Italian language, at <a href="https://platform.who.int/docs/default-source/mca-documents/policy-documents/plan-strategy/ITA-AD-17-02-PLAN-STRATEGY-2016-ita-National-Intervention-Plan-HIV-AIDS.pdf">https://platform.who.int/docs/default-source/mca-documents/policy-documents/plan-strategy/ITA-AD-17-02-PLAN-STRATEGY-2016-ita-National-Intervention-Plan-HIV-AIDS.pdf</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Prevention Plan 2020-2025: the document include a specific section dedicated to 'Priority infectious diseases'. The areas of intervention considered priorities on which the prevention activities envisaged by the PNP 2020-2025 are concentrated concern: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– preparedness for and response to an influenza pandemic or other infectious emergency;</li> <li>– the measles and congenital rubella elimination plan;</li> <li>– vaccinations;</li> <li>– sexually transmitted infections;</li> <li>– the fight against HIV, AIDS, viral hepatitis, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis-TB;</li> <li>– zoonoses and food poisoning;</li> <li>– vector-borne diseases;</li> <li>– antimicrobial-resistance;</li> <li>– healthcare associated infections</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>The complete document is available at <a href="https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_pubblicazioni_2955_allegato.pdf">https://www.salute.gov.it/imgs/C_17_pubblicazioni_2955_allegato.pdf</a>; the presentation of the document is available at <a href="https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?menu=notizie&amp;id=5029#:~:text=Il%20documento%2C%20rappresentando%20quindi%20la%20cornice%20comune%20degli%20consolidate%20e%20documentate%2C%20strategie%20raccomandate%2C%20nazionali%20e%20internazionali">https://www.salute.gov.it/portale/news/p3_2_1_1_1.jsp?menu=notizie&amp;id=5029#:~:text=Il%20documento%2C%20rappresentando%20quindi%20la%20cornice%20comune%20degli%20consolidate%20e%20documentate%2C%20strategie%20raccomandate%2C%20nazionali%20e%20internazionali</a></p>
<b>Latvia</b>	<p>As far as we know, there are no specific national plans regarding Long Covid.</p> <p>We have different kind of guidelines for monitoring of patients infected with Covid-19 (in Latvian): <a href="https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/kliniskie-algoritmi-pacientu-celi-indikatoru-esf-projekts">https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/kliniskie-algoritmi-pacientu-celi-indikatoru-esf-projekts</a></p> <p>Clinical algorithms and clinical pathways for dynamic monitoring of patients infected with Covid-19 in adults: <a href="https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/media/17978/download?attachment">https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/media/17978/download?attachment</a></p> <p>Clinical algorithms for dynamic monitoring of patients infected with Covid-19 for children: <a href="https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/media/17975/download?attachment">https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/media/17975/download?attachment</a></p> <p>Clinical pathways of dynamic observation of patients infected with Covid-19 in children: <a href="https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/media/17981/download?attachment">https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/media/17981/download?attachment</a></p> <p>Clinical algorithm for providing early oxygen therapy to Covid-19 patients: <a href="https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/media/17924/download?attachment">https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/media/17924/download?attachment</a></p> <p>Patients after laboratory-confirmed Covid-19 infection can receive state co-financed outpatient medical rehabilitation and medical rehabilitation in a day hospital: <a href="https://www.vmnvd.gov.lv/lv/mediciniska-rehabilitacija">https://www.vmnvd.gov.lv/lv/mediciniska-rehabilitacija</a></p>
<b>Norway</b>	<p>In general there is a holistic approach on rehabilitation after COVID19 in the form of recommendations and guidelines: <a href="https://www.helsedirektoratet.no/veiledere/koronavirus/Senf%C3%B8lger-og-rehabilitering-etter-covid-19/rehabilitering-etter-covid-19/Rehabiliteringen-b%C3%B8r-ha-et-helhetlig-perspektiv">https://www.helsedirektoratet.no/veiledere/koronavirus/Senf%C3%B8lger-og-rehabilitering-etter-covid-19/rehabilitering-etter-covid-19/Rehabiliteringen-b%C3%B8r-ha-et-helhetlig-perspektiv</a> (in Norwegian).</p>
<b>Poland</b>	<p>In view of the decrease in the number of SARS-CoV-2 infections, by order of the Minister of Health of March 31st 2022, referrals to the post-COVID-19 rehabilitation program were issued until April 4th 2022. Patients with issued referrals were able to complete them by the end of June 2022. Patients, who after April 4th 2022 undergo COVID-19 and their condition indicates the need for rehabilitation, are still able to benefit from rehabilitation based on financing from the National Health Fund, but under standard contracts concluded with e.g. health resorts for, among others, general, neurological and pulmonary rehabilitation.</p> <p>Below please find information as regards documents and programs undertaken in Poland regarding the prevention of infectious diseases (however not specifically regarding postviral/postinfectious syndromes):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The National Health Program is a strategic document for public health, and therefore the basis for activities in this area. According to Art. 9 of the Act of 11 September 2015 on public health, the NHP is drawn up for a period of not less than 5 years. The strategic goal of the NHP for 2021-2025 is to increase the number of years lived in health and reduce social inequalities in health.</li> </ol>



The adoption of the National Health Program was one of the main assumptions of the Public Health Act, which entered into force on 3 December 2015. The NHP for 2021-2025 is largely a continuation of the Program implemented in 2016-2020.

<https://www.gov.pl/web/zdrowie/narodowy-program-zdrowia-2021-2025>

2. National COVID-19 Vaccination Program is designed to plan activities to ensure safe and effective vaccination among Polish citizens. It covers not only the purchase of the appropriate number of vaccines, their distribution, but also the monitoring of the course and effectiveness of vaccination and the safety of Poles. The main goal presented in the program is to provide vaccines:

- safe and effective,
- in sufficient quantity
- in the shortest time,
- free,
- voluntary,
- easily accessible.

The document consists of 9 chapters describing e.g. the effectiveness and safety of vaccines, the purchasing process and financing, distribution and logistics, medical recommendations and the organization of vaccination points or the sequence of vaccinations.

<https://www.gov.pl/web/szczepimysie/narodowy-program-szczepien-przeciw-covid-19>

3. Around the world, widespread vaccination programs have eliminated some infectious diseases (including smallpox) and greatly reduced the course of many others. Fewer and fewer people die as a result of, for example, whooping cough, tuberculosis, measles or congenital rubella. Information on which vaccinations are carried out in Poland and when, can be found in the Preventive Vaccination Program (PSO). A new calendar is published every year, which includes both mandatory (free) and recommended (paid) vaccinations.

Vaccination calendar:

- contains information against which diseases children and adults should be vaccinated;
- includes vaccination schedules for children and adults who are particularly vulnerable to infection;
- defines the dates and intervals between vaccinations, types of vaccines and methods of their administration.

Recommendations for the implementation of vaccinations in Poland are prepared by the Pediatric Team of Experts for the Protective Vaccination Program at the Ministry of Health and Sanitary and Epidemiological Council at the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Recommendations result from the analysis of national data on the incidence of individual infectious diseases and infections. They also take into account the recommendations and reports of the Vaccination Advisory Committee of the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control and the recommendations of the World Health Organization.

<https://www.gov.pl/web/zdrowie/program-szczepien-ochronnych-pso->

Preventive Vaccination Program (PSO) for 2023 <https://dziennikmz.mz.gov.pl/legalact/2022/113/>

4. Profilaktyka 40 PLUS (Prophylaxis 40 PLUS) is a program of free preventive examinations for all Poles over 40 years of age. The main objective of the program is disease prevention due to reduced reporting to doctors in 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic. Many diseases, especially in their early stages, do not cause any alarming symptoms. Preventive examinations allow you to detect health disorders and implement appropriate treatment at an early stage of the disease. The program is implemented by the National Health Fund and the Ministry of Health.

Prophylaxis 40 PLUS involves the implementation of free diagnostic tests for people over 40 in the form of packages dedicated separately for women and men and a joint package.

<https://www.gov.pl/web/zdrowie/profilaktyka-40-plus>

5. The National Program for Combating Infectious Diseases (formerly the National Program for Combating Influenza) is a social initiative of independent medical experts. For over 10 years, the program has been conducting educational activities in Poland and supporting the increase in vaccination rates, both among patients from risk groups and in the whole society. The assumption of the program is that everyone and everywhere, regardless of age, can fully benefit from vaccination, which will translate into better health and condition of the population. The foundation responsible for the



	organization of the program wants to focus the attention of the healthcare system on primary prevention of infectious diseases and ensuring universal and equal access to vaccines and vaccinations at every level of health care. <a href="https://opzg.opzci.pl/dokumenty-programowe/">https://opzg.opzci.pl/dokumenty-programowe/</a> (Polish only)
<b>Portugal</b>	Will reply in written.
<b>Romania</b>	According to our knowledge, only certain department deal with long covid, according to the protocol MO 439/ 2021 <a href="https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocumentAfis/241644">/https://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocumentAfis/241644</a> . We do not know of any other action or initiative related to other pathogens.
<b>Slovenia</b>	There's no such document (national action plan, clinical path, etc) that would cover the post-covid syndrom. Nevertheless, there are quite a lot of activities (e.g. survey on post-covid syndrom, analysis of existing registries, pathways in University Clinical Centre in Ljubljana). There are not joined in a national strategy, but there are more activities per-se. But of course, Slovenia would be more than interested to get more information from other countries regarding such documents.
<b>The Netherlands</b>	To our knowledge, only C-Support stands in dealing with Long COVID ( <a href="https://www.c-support.nu/">https://www.c-support.nu/</a> ). We do not know of any other action or initiative relates to other pathogens.
<b>UK</b>	England: see Advice from NHS England on Long COVID – <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/long-term-effects-of-covid-19-long-covid/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/covid-19/long-term-effects-of-covid-19-long-covid/</a> There is an online tool for self-management - <a href="https://www.yourcovidrecovery.nhs.uk">https://www.yourcovidrecovery.nhs.uk</a> An action plan with £90M for 2021/22 was put in place in England focusing on specialist clinics - <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/the-nhs-plan-for-improving-long-covid-services">https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/the-nhs-plan-for-improving-long-covid-services</a> and <a href="https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/C1607_The-NHS-plan-for-improving-long-COVID-services_July-2022.pdf">https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/C1607_The-NHS-plan-for-improving-long-COVID-services_July-2022.pdf</a> The National Institute for Health and Care Effectiveness (NICE) and e Scottish Intercollegiate Guidelines Network (SIGN) and the Royal College of General Practitioners (RCGP) published guidelines on management noting that there is no consensus on treatments as evidence is still accumulating - <a href="https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng188/resources/covid19-rapid-guideline-managing-the-longterm-effects-of-covid19-pdf-51035515742">https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng188/resources/covid19-rapid-guideline-managing-the-longterm-effects-of-covid19-pdf-51035515742</a> Wales: there is guidance for NHS and other organisations in setting up care pathways - <a href="https://www.gov.wales/all-wales-community-pathway-long-covid">https://www.gov.wales/all-wales-community-pathway-long-covid</a> Scotland: there is also a pathway with £10M invested - <a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-long-covid-service/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/scotlands-long-covid-service/</a>



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101018317

[www.phiri.eu](http://www.phiri.eu)

Gesundheit Österreich  
GmbH 