

COVID-19 Task Force

2021 Annual Report

Members

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Emilio Perucca (Italy), ILAE-Europe
Emmanuel Sanya (Nigeria), ILAE-Africa
Eugen Trinka (Austria), ILAE-Europe
Sam Wiebe (Canada), ILAE-North America
Dong Zhou (China), ILAE-Asia Oceania

Highlights

1. Published the findings from the survey of clinicians and patients undertaken in 2020 as to the impact of COVID on people with epilepsy and their care, as well as a use of telemedicine survey in *Epilepsia*, as well as a review on how the pandemic has affected researchers around the globe

Cross JH, Kwon CS, Asadi-Pooya AA, Balagura G, Gómez-Iglesias P, Guekht A, Hall J, Ikeda A, Kishk NA, Murphy P, Kissani N, Naji Y, Perucca E, Pérez-Poveda JC, Sanya EO, Trinka E, Zhou D, Wiebe S and Jette N, on behalf of the ILAE Task Forces on COVID-19 and Telemedicine. *Epilepsy care during the COVID-19 pandemic. Epilepsia Epilepsia*. 2021 Oct;62(10):2322-2332.

Volkers N, Wiebe S, Akbar Asadi-Pooya A, Balagura G, Gómez-Iglesias P, Guekht A, Hall J, Ikeda A, Jetté N, Kishk NA, Murphy P, Perucca E, Pérez-Poveda JC, Sanya EO, Trinka E, Zhou D, Cross JH. The initial impact of the SARS-COV2 pandemic on epilepsy research *Epilepsia Open*. 2021 Jun;6(2):255-265

2. Continued to meet on a regular basis to meet the ongoing need, which enabled
 - a. Regular updates for publication on the website with regard to vaccines in people with epilepsy, available in 11 languages
 - b. Regular updates and translation of FAQs for people with epilepsy in 12 languages, available on the website

3. Awarded four further COVID19 prizes for research/publication in epilepsy and covid relevant topic, one each to Latin American, North American, European and Asian Oceanic regions

Other Activities

We continue to meet every two months to ensure we address any ongoing issues with regard to people with epilepsy and the pandemic.

We have tasked the telemedicine Task Force to take forward consensus advice on how to conduct remote telemedicine consultations in people with epilepsy.

Submitted by J. Helen Cross