

Several pre-existing structures drove Latvia's COVID-19 response

The highest-level coordination body of Latvia's COVID-19 response is the Crisis Management Council, headed by the Prime Minister. The main bodies involved in the response are the Ministry of Health, the CDPC (reporting to the WHO and EU; contact tracing), the Emergency Medical Service (coordination and transport of hospitalisations) and the NHS (organising, planning and paying for health care services; central procurement of medical devices and goods, including individual protective equipment for health care institutions). (from State of Health in the EU - Latvia - Country Health Profile 2021 see https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-12/2021_chp_lv_english.pdf)

Tackling antimicrobial resistance is a policy priority in Latvia. Latvia developed and adopted the National One Health Plan for containing AMR and encouraging prudent use of antibiotics for 2019-20, which promoted coordinated action across the organisations involved in fighting AMR at the national level. Beyond strengthening collaboration, the main priorities of the plan included improving AMR monitoring and laboratory capacity, as well as promoting awareness and responsible use of antimicrobials. (from State of Health in the EU - Latvia - Country Health Profile 2023 see https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-12/2023_chp_lv_english.pdf)

Latvia had a national research programme "Mitigating the effects of COVID-19" with the overarching objective of the programme of limiting the spread of the COVID-19 infectious disease and to protect the population in order to urgently restore economic activity and socially active daily life through innovative high-readiness scientific projects.

The aim of the programme is to develop scientific forecasts on scenarios for further action in Latvia in autumn 2020, 2021 and 2022, including for overcoming new outbreaks by implementing research in three thematic areas:

1. healthcare and public health, including new methods for treating and diagnosing COVID-19, new treatments, research into the factors determining and affecting susceptibility to infection and outbreaks, diagnosis, course and therapy of the disease, post-infection consequences, the presence of the virus in the external environment and in indoor animals in the affected household, as well as clinical, epidemiological and public health studies;
2. engineering solutions, including for increasing human safety, rapid detection of an infectious disease, development, testing and certification of personal protective equipment, provision of remote services in industries and use of ICT in the educational process;
3. the economy and societal well-being, including economic resilience to epidemics and pandemics and post-crisis development opportunities, societal behavioural patterns and psychological resilience in times of crisis, as well as the transformation of the education sector and values.

R&I Policies and Strategies

The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.

Country has a dedicated strategy for R&I related to pandemic threat? **yes**

R&I strategy URL <https://www.lzp.gov.lv/lv/covid-19-seku-mazinasanai>

Country has an open science portal with information on publicly financed scientific research? **Yes** <https://ppdb.mk.gov.lv/datubaze/>

R&I portal <http://petijumi.mk.gov.lv/> & [Projects | Latvian Council of Science \(lzp.gov.lv\)](https://www.lzp.gov.lv/)

Website open science/ open data initiative with respect to pandemic threats, such as COVID-19 open

Name	URL	Short Description
------	-----	-------------------

	https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/hivaidis-statistika	
--	---	--

	https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/covid-19-statistika	
--	---	--

	https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv/infekcijas-slimibas-statistika-un-petijumi	
--	---	--

national research programme "Mitigating the effects of COVID-19"	https://www.lzp.gov.lv/lv/covid-19-seku-mazinasanai	
--	---	--

Country has coordinating structures to link public health needs and research needs? Yes
Coordinating structures URL <https://www.esparveselibu.lv/>

R&I Infrastructures

The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.

Country has the following research infrastructure for infectious diseases and outbreaks available, or under construction BSL 3; Clinical trial units; Open genome deposits for bacteria

Name Infrastructure	Type Infrastructure	URL	Max Capacity	Available for	Open to
---------------------	---------------------	-----	--------------	---------------	---------

Country supporting the participation to the following ESFRI initiatives relevant for infectious diseases BBMRI; EATRIS; MIRRI

Website network of clinical trials (e.g. to facilitate the access to clinical trials) the country is involved in

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/solidarity-clinical-trial-for-covid-19-treatments>
<https://www.combacte.com/>

Budget mobilisation mechanisms and funding sources *The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.*

Basic Research

url <https://lzp.gov.lv/en/>

funding for basic research accessible for industry? Yes
source of funding Public (research) agencies

Applied Research

url <https://lzp.gov.lv/en/>

funding for applied research accessible for industry? Yes
source of funding Public (research) agencies

Translational Research

url www.liaa.gov.lv

funding accessible for industry? Yes
source of funding Public (research) agencies

Clinical Research (in general)

url <https://lzp.gov.lv/en/>

funding accessible for industry? Yes
source of funding Public (research) agencies
phase funded? Phase 1; Phase 2

Clinical Research (in pandemic phase)

url

funding accessible for industry?
source of funding
phase funded ?

Innovation Projects

url

funding for innovation projects accessible industry? Yes
source of funding Public (research) agencies

R&I actors, authorities and activated processes that are activated in case of a health threat

The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.

R&I actors, authorities and ministries involved in case of an outbreak; mobilisation processes of research forces; administrative procedures to diminish the administrative burden for researchers and funding administrations; assessment of research outputs produced during a crisis; incentives ensuring qualitative scientific dissemination during a crisis; mechanisms to identify promising therapies or medical products for pandemic preparedness that are in the pipeline; international scientific collaboration in case of an outbreak

Name	Description	url
Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (SPKC)	Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (SPKC), under MoH, implements public health policy in Latvia in epidemiological safety and disease prevention	https://www.spkc.gov.lv/lv
Latvian Council of Science	The Latvian Council of Science funds fundamental and applied research	https://lzp.gov.lv/en/
Latvian Investment and Development Agency (LIAA)	The Latvian Investment and Development Agency funds industrial research	www.liaa.gov.lv
Ministry of Education and Science (IZM)	IZM is responsible for the planning, coordination, implementation and monitoring of science policy in higher education and research institutions	https://www.izm.gov.lv/en
Ministry of Health (MoH)	The Latvian MoH supports research and innovation for medical countermeasures	https://www.vm.gov.lv/
Ministry of Interior (IEM)	Ministry of Interior (IEM) is involved in case of emergencies	https://www.iem.gov.lv/en/ministry-interior
State Agency of Medicines (ZVA)	The Latvian State Agency of Medicines (ZVA) authorises clinical trials	https://www.zva.gov.lv/en

Version August 2025



Funded by the European Union

BE READY is responding to the call: HORIZON-HLTH-2021-DISEASE-04-06 “Building a European partnership for pandemic preparedness” under grant agreement 101057795. Starting date: 01.06.2022. | End Date 31.05.2025

BE READY PLUS is responding to the call: HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-17 “Pandemic preparedness and response: Maintaining and enhancing the preparatory work for a co-funded European partnership for pandemic” under grant agreement 101195079. Starting date: 01.01.2025. | End Date 31.12.2025