WHAT TO DO WHEN A CORONA PEAK COINCIDES WITH A HEAT WAVE?

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Abstract

During the first corona wave in March, policy makers started to wonder what to do when the corona coincided with a heat wave. Three problems came up: 1) conflicting recommendations: stay home for corona and move to cool places during heat waves 2) how to separate fever from increased core temperatures due to heat 3) how to alleviate heat strain of workers in protective clothing. Using the Global Heat Health Information Network (https://ghhin.org/) we invited scientists to bring in expertise on this item and discussed the progress on a weekly basis. Scientists were allocated to working groups to address societal issues and provide evidence-based advice on how to manage both stressors. The work was consolidated into technical briefs, a Q&A document, easy to use checklist and YouTube video. These are all freely available online for a globally outreach. The language and structure of these technical briefs was aimed for front line staff, policy makers and interested non-experts. We also published the results in open access in the journal Temperature. The paper has over 2100 views per Nov 11, 2020.

Open Science efforts

A It was decided to publish open access to make the finding available to everyone. Also, results are communicated through a website: https://ghhin.org/heat-and-covid-19/.
B The way how the information was gathered was written down explicitly in the paper in Temperature.

D Several efforts were undertaken to disseminate the findings. RIVM updated their website and made a special Q and A forum: https://www.rivm.nl/hitte/vragen-en-antwoorden-hitte-covid-19. The board of the VU organized a special meeting on corona research at the VU August 31 in which the results were presented.

E Collaborative: scientists from all over the world participated to share their expertise.

**Impact, successes and failures**

The impact of the work is visible from the websites of GHHIN, RIVM and others that took over the information from the paper. This can be considered a success. Although the paper is viewed over 2100 times, it is not yet cited in the scientific literature.

**Open Science Resources**

and via the website: http://ghhin.org/heat-and-covid-19/ including a YouTube clip
Scientific publication in an open access journal:

**References**