

CORONAVIRUS: PHYSICIAN AND PATIENT PERSPECTIVES WEEK 1

 M3 GLOBAL RESEARCH



CORONAVIRUS: PHYSICIAN AND PATIENT PERSPECTIVES

WEEK 1

This week we have surveyed 3,268 HCPs and 687 patients in Italy, France, Germany, Spain, UK, and USA to better understand their current stance on coronavirus and their local governmental response. We will be repeating the survey weekly for the next four weeks and documenting how the results change as the situation evolves.

▶ HCPs **3,268**

ITA 518
FRA 290
DEU 196
ESP 389
UK 510
USA 1352

▶ Patients **687**

ITA 128
FRA 40
DEU 25
ESP 51
UK 95
USA 347



CONFIDENCE IN GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL PLANS

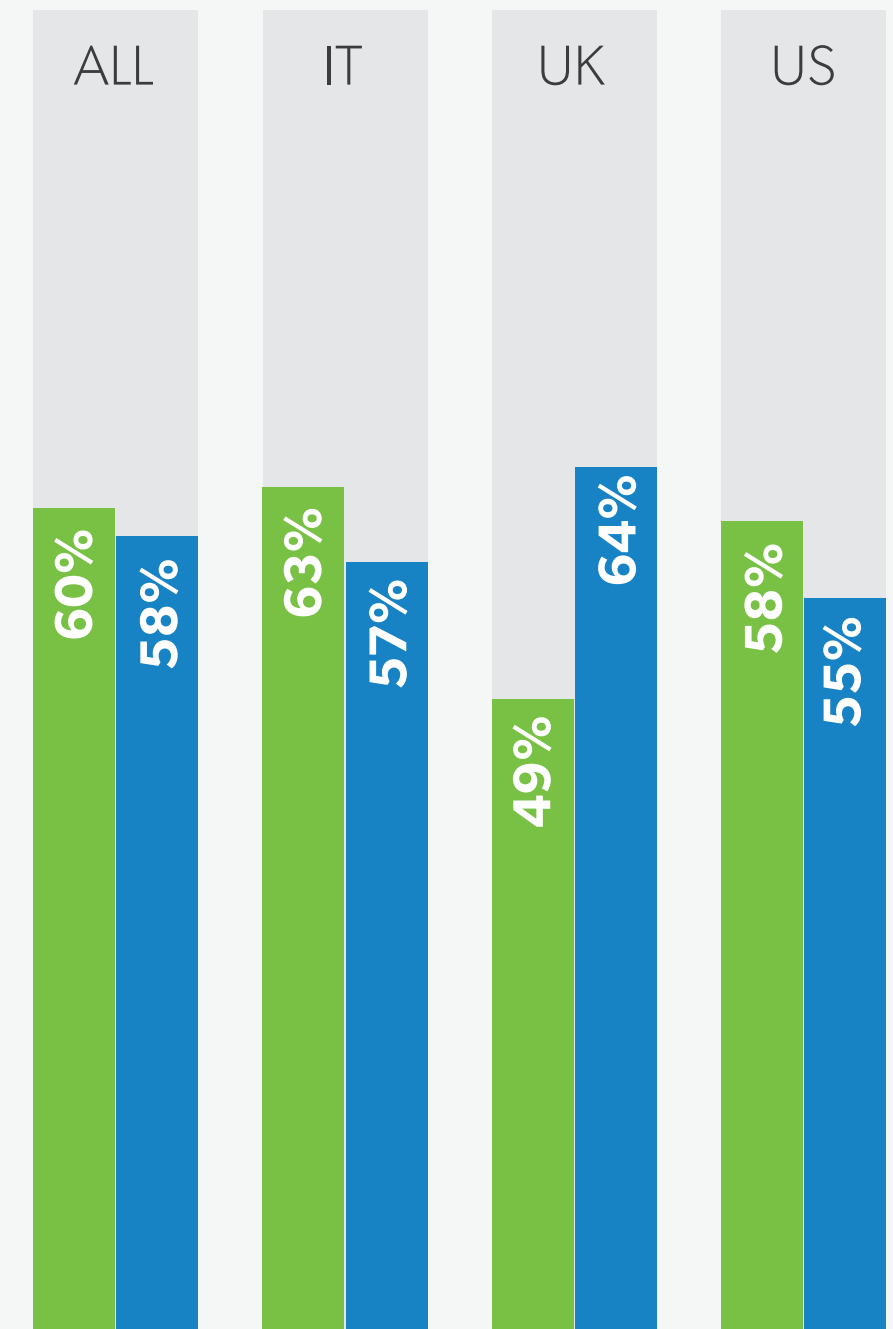
Despite the number of cases in Italy, 63% of Italian doctors have confidence in their government's preparedness to handle a widespread outbreak of Covid-19, compared to 58% in the US, and 49% in the UK.

At a local level less than 50% UK doctors (46%) are confident that they will be able to contain the spread of a virus, compared to 59% in Italy, and 60% in the US (59% across all markets).



When they consider preparedness of their own practice or hospital, confidence levels are higher, particularly in the UK, with 54% UK doctors, and 67% US doctors, and 60% Italian doctors feeling prepared to handle a severe outbreak, perhaps because they feel they can have more influence and control at a local level.

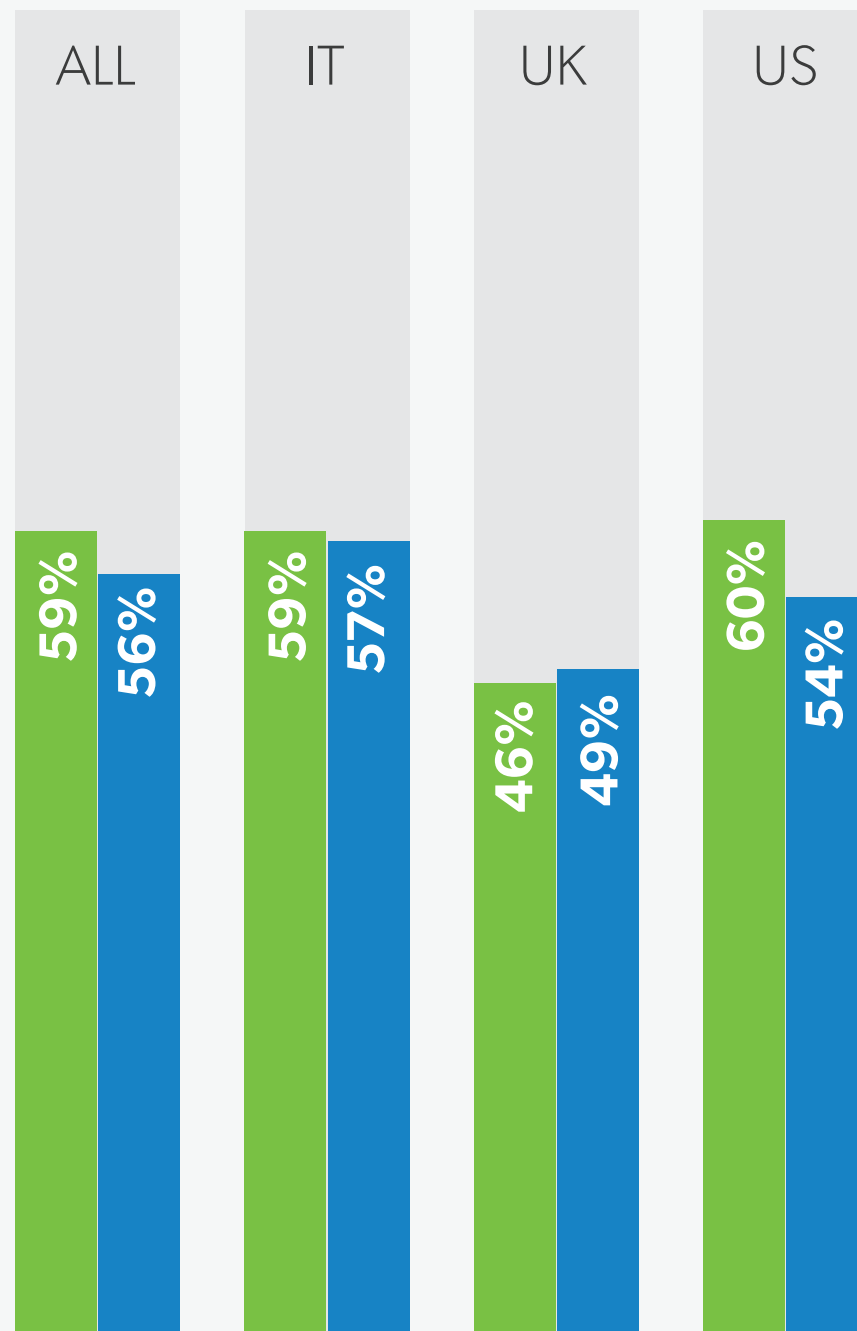
How confident are you in your government's preparedness to handle 2019-nCoV should it impact your country on a widespread level?

- ▶ HCPs
- ▶ Patients



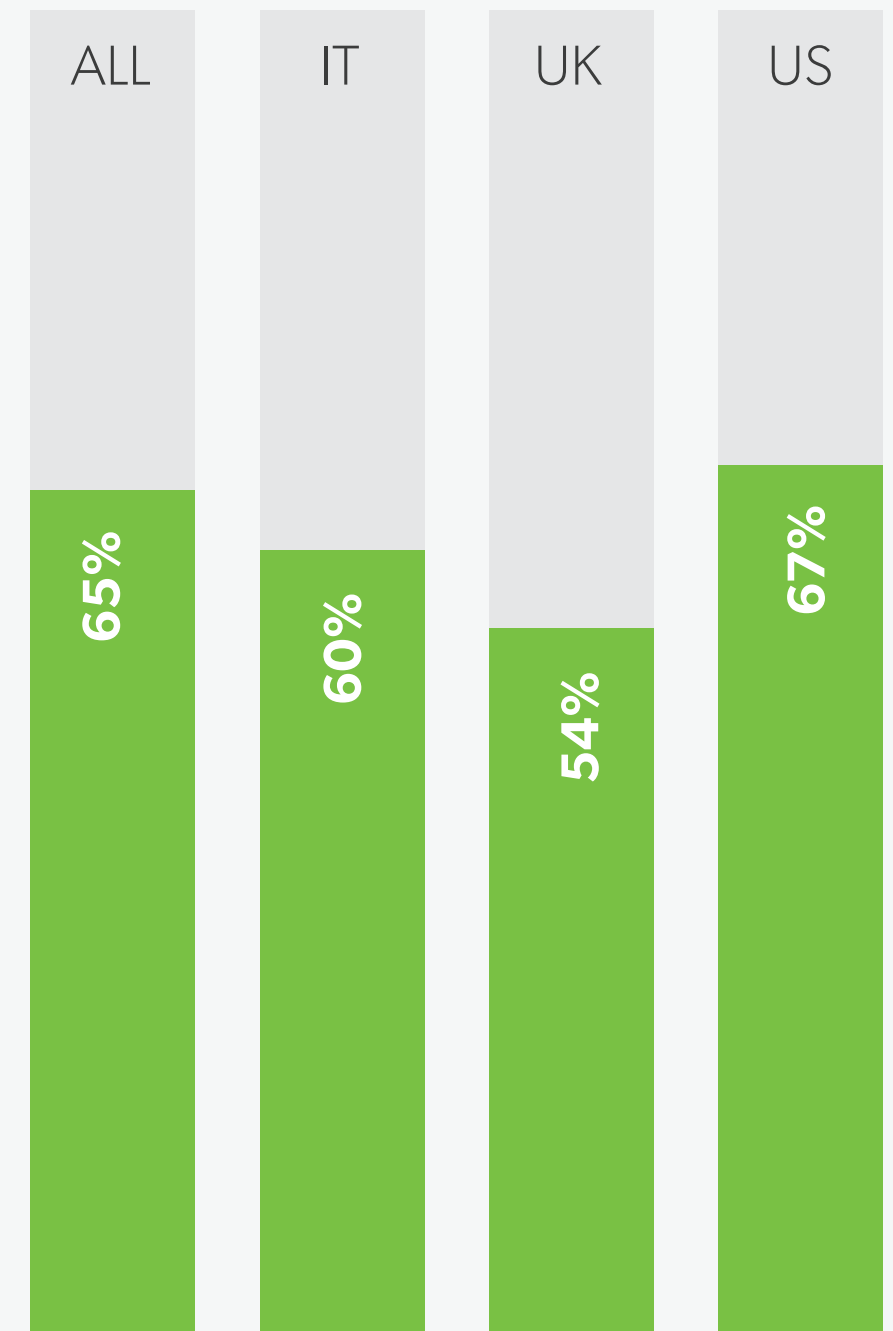
What is your level of confidence in the local plans in place to contain the spread of 2019-nCoV in your community?

-  HCPs
-  Patients



How prepared do you think your facility or organization is to handle a severe outbreak of a virus such as 2019-nCoV?



-  HCPs

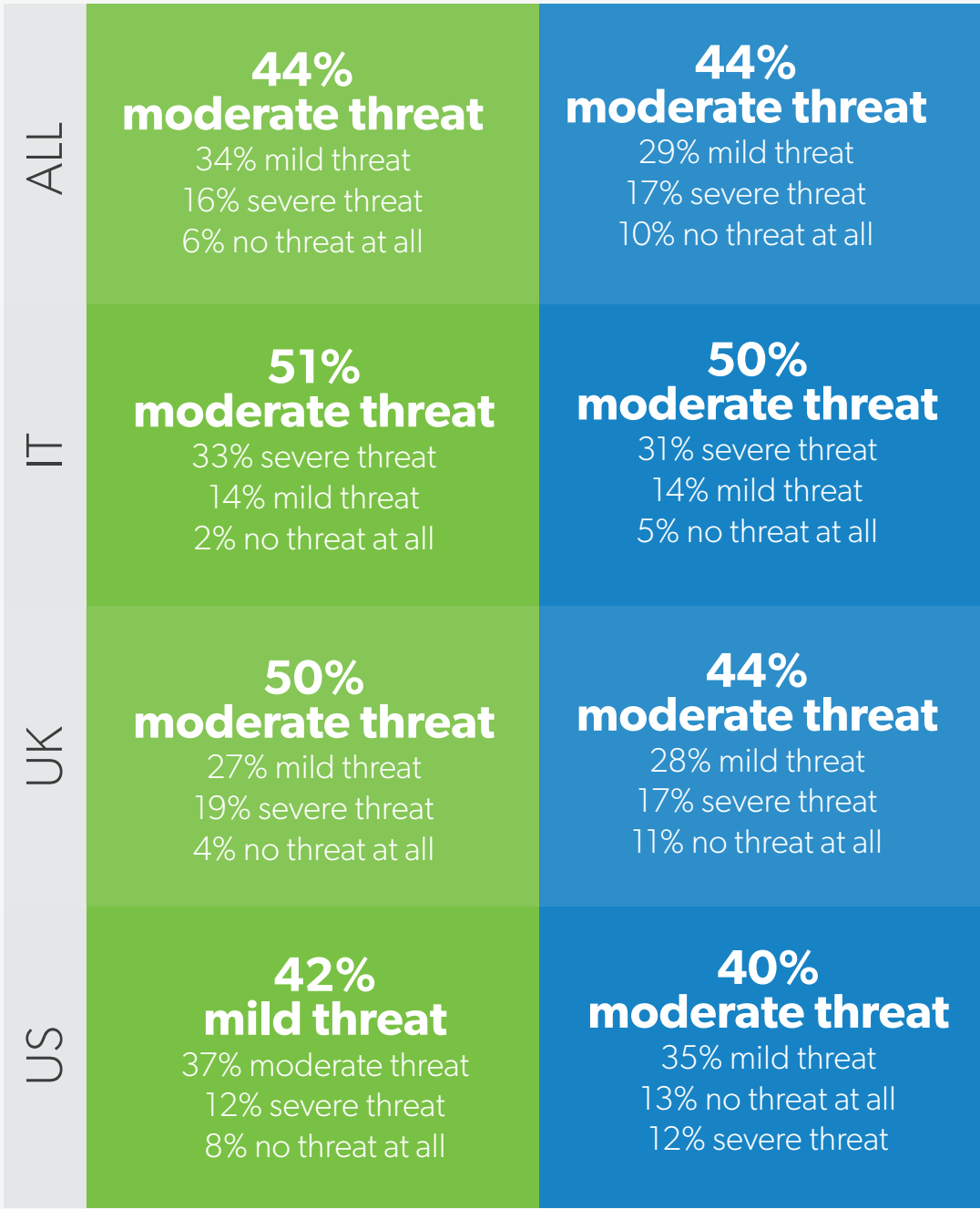


HOW SERIOUS OF A THREAT IS COVID-19 AT A LOCAL LEVEL?

Overall, both doctors and patients consider Covid-19 to represent a moderate threat to their local community. In all markets except for Italy, where Covid-19 is more widespread, the majority of respondents consider it to be a moderate or mild threat. However in Italy, 33% doctors and 31% patients consider it to be a severe threat. US physicians are the least concerned group, with nearly half (42%) considering Covid-19 to be a mild threat.

How serious of a threat do you think the 2019-nCoV is in your local community at this time?

-  HCPs
-  Patients





HOW CAN WE CONTAIN COVID-19?

In short, we shouldn't be taking any drastic measures. Only 21% respondents think we should be closing schools (although this rose to 47% in Italy), 4% think curfews would be effective, and only 11% thought that halting public transportation would not help.

However, 41% thought that international travel in and out of the country should be suspended. In good news for football and rugby fans (if they can get there!), only 41% thought sporting, religious and cultural events should be cancelled, although we are already seeing reports of these matches being played in empty stadia despite not taking place in 'hotspot' areas.

The options that should be worth considering include vaccinations, which 41% thought would be effective in restricting the spread of the virus. Although there are some vaccinations in the pipeline it's unlikely that anything would be widely available until Q2 2021, but the medical community expects Covid-19 to become a commonplace virus as SARS and swine flu did, which still makes production of a vaccine appropriate. Controversially given current global advice, only 51% think that quarantines will help. In the open-end responses the more favoured advice is to self-isolate if you are ill to avoid further transmission of the disease.

At a similar level, only 46% respondents think protective equipment, including gloves and masks, would be useful. However, in the open-ended questions masks are suggested as a sensible measure for anyone who is immuno-compromised as it offers them additional protection. However, the mask would only be helpful for the patient themselves, and not required for anyone caring for them. For non-medical respondents, the containment measures that were deemed to be the most effective were quarantines (55%), public information (61%), and suspension of air travel (50%).

Which of the following do you feel would be most effective to contain the spreading of the 2019-nCoV?



21%
Closing
businesses
and schools



4%
Curfews



41%
Vaccinations



51%
Quarantines



71%
Public
information



46%
Using
protective
equipment



11%
Halting
public
transportation



41%
Cancelling
sporting,
religious and
cultural events



41%
Suspending
international
travel in / out
of the country



HCPs 3,268

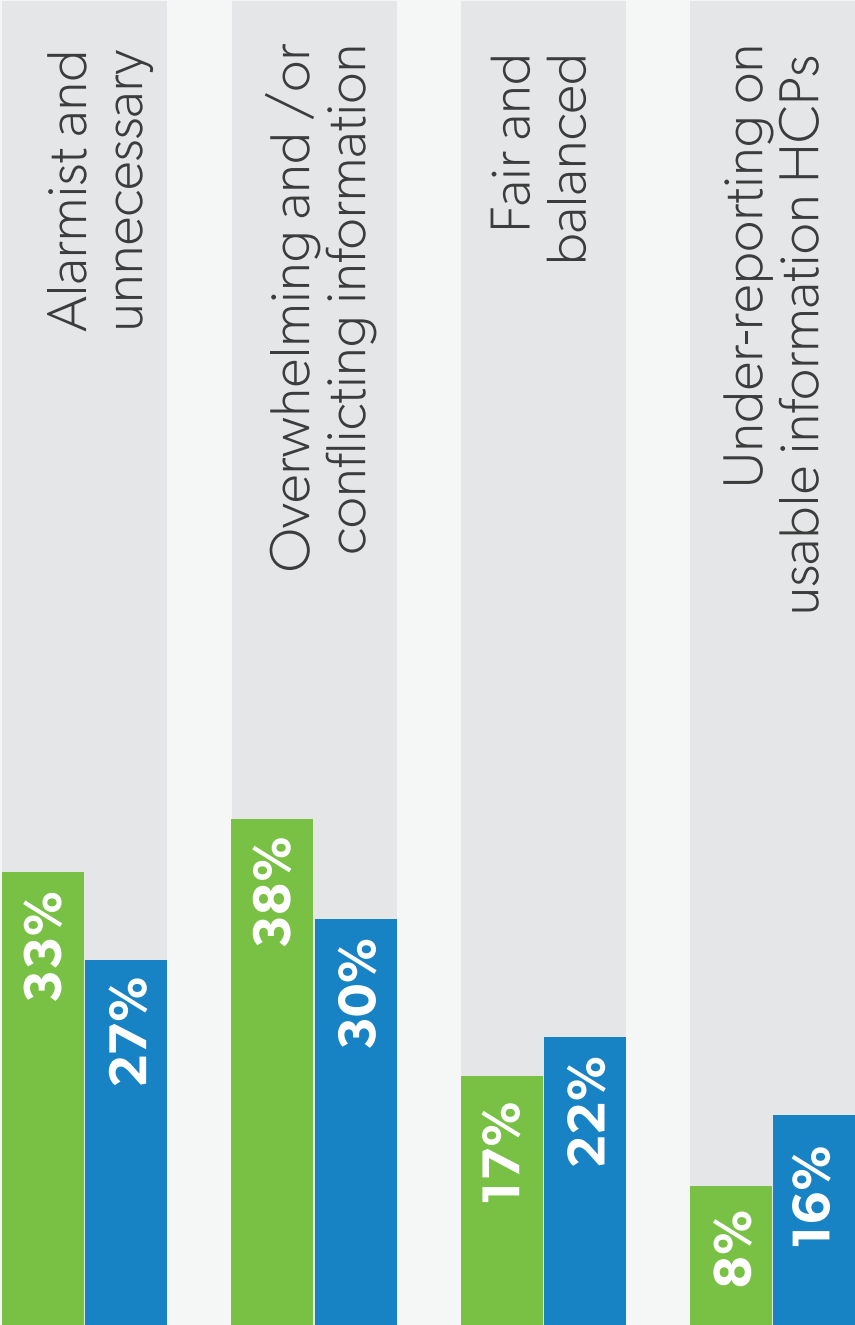
STAYING UP-TO-DATE

By far the most popular selection in terms of ways to contain Covid-19 is education for the public, with 71% respondents agreeing that this is particularly effective.

That said, respondents generally believe that controlling information shared in the media is particularly important, with 71% concerned about the media coverage of coronavirus overall (79% Italy, 59% UK, 69% US). Of these, 33% would describe coverage in their country as 'alarmist and unnecessary', and 38% 'overwhelming and / or conflicting information', which rose to a massive 65% in Italy. Opinion on media coverage is the area of most significant deviation between patient and HCP respondent groups, with patients feeling slightly more positive about media.

How do you feel about media coverage of 2019-nCoV in your country?

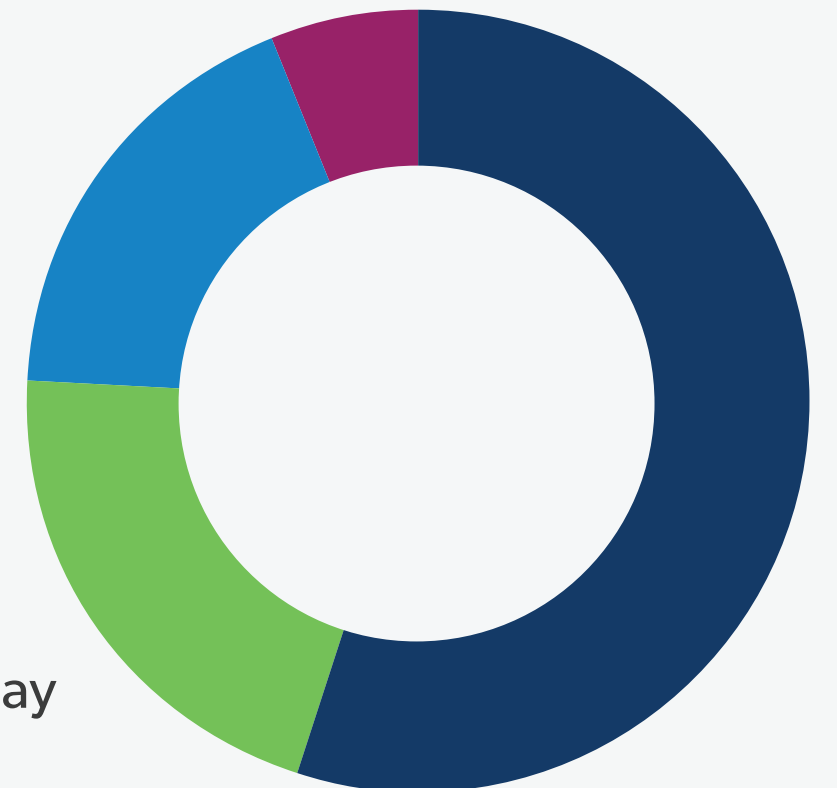
- HCPs
- Patients



In terms of how often HCPs are accessing information, given the fast-changing nature of the disease, it was surprising that 18% are only reviewing updates about Covid-19 weekly. However, as you'd expect, the vast majority (73%) are checking for updates daily, with 21% of those looking for more information multiple times a day, increasing to 41% in Italy.

How often are you reviewing material and updates about 2019-nCoV provided by your local and national government health departments?

- ▶ 55% Daily
- ▶ 21% Multiple times a day
- ▶ 18% Weekly
- ▶ 6% Less than once a week



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