OpenWHO continued to increase pandemic learning opportunities in October with the launch of a new course on how to provide safe, effective and quality care for patients with COVID-19.

The new resource is the first in what will be a series of six courses for health care workers that address different aspects of COVID-19 clinical management. It reflects the latest technical guidance for COVID-19, building on a broader course that covers clinical care for severe acute respiratory infections.

The COVID-19 series will be hosted on a new learning channel that brings together clinical management trainings on a variety of diseases, including Ebola and influenza. Overall, OpenWHO now offers 138 COVID-19 courses, spanning 19 different topics and 42 languages.

"Thank you for this well-explained course and knowledge that I am already putting in practice... I am going to share this with colleagues, residents, visitors, community members and families in a wider way." -OpenWHO user, COVID-19 long-term care course
WHO Incident Management System course enrolments surge

OpenWHO hosts two multilingual courses on the Incident Management System (IMS), WHO’s command system to control health emergencies.

The introductory course, IMS Tier 1, covers the minimum package for all personnel deployed in WHO emergency response, while the intermediate course, IMS Tier 2, builds on Tier 1 to provide a deeper understanding of the IMS.

Both courses are available in six languages – Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish – and additional languages such as Chinese are under development.

The courses have experienced an exponential increase in enrolments during the pandemic, as witnessed platform-wide. IMS Tier 1 tripled its learning numbers in the past year, reaching 30 000 enrolments, while IMS Tier 2 increased nearly 6-fold from 4000 to 23 000. Completion rates are high, 40-50% on average, breaking MOOC industry standards.

WHO personnel have also increasingly joined the courses, with IMS Tier 1 increasing from 1200 to 1800 staff enrolments, and IMS Tier 2 from 500 to 1600.
OpenWHO hosts COVID-19 courses in 42 languages and counting, thanks to the crowd power of translators from all corners of the globe.

In total, more than 6.3 million words have been translated for pandemic learning through partnerships with WHO regional and country offices, organizations such as Translators Without Borders, and other volunteer translators worldwide.