

# Dominica

This document is a compilation of all questions, justifications, and sources used to determine the 2021 Global Health Security Index scores for Dominica. For a category and indicator-level summary, please see the Country Profile for Dominica.

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## Category 1: Preventing the emergence or release of pathogens with potential for international concern

### 1.1 ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)

#### 1.1.1 AMR surveillance, detection, and reporting

##### 1.1.1a

**Is there a national AMR plan for the surveillance, detection, and reporting of priority AMR pathogens?**

Yes, there is evidence of an AMR plan, and it covers surveillance, detection, and reporting = 2, Yes, there is evidence of an AMR plan, but there is insufficient evidence that it covers surveillance, detection, and reporting = 1, No evidence of an AMR plan = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national AMR plan for the surveillance, detection, and reporting of priority AMR pathogens. The World Health Organization (WHO) Library of National Action Plans does not list a plan for Dominica. [1] WHO's Strategic Partnership for Health (SPH) site does not list any "AMR support activities" for Dominica. [1] WHO's 2014 "Antimicrobial resistance: global report on surveillance" document includes Dominica, but states "No information obtained for this report" for the country. [2] In 2014, Dominica reported on the state of AMR in the country, noting "Areas for strengthening", including the "Antimicrobial susceptibility committee", human resources for AMR work, and "National treatment/prescribing guidelines". [3] The Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period states that the country's "National AMR action plan [is] under development", (response to question 5.1) but does not list an expected completion date. [4] For question 4.1, the country responded that there is a "Multi-sectoral working group(s) or coordination committee on AMR established with Government leadership". [4] In 2018, the government reported that "two pharmacists received short-term training in Antimicrobial Stewardship which will help in the fight to curb the growing trend in antimicrobial resistance" from the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), and that laboratory staff were also trained in AMR. [5] In October 2019, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) trained 36 individuals in the country on taking samples for AMR detection and surveillance. [6] In 2019, the government reported that it had formed a "multi-sectoral and multi-discipline" technical working committee "to review and disseminate findings on anti-microbial resistance patterns". [7] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [8] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding a national AMR plan for the surveillance, detection, and reporting of priority AMR pathogens. [9, 10] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [11]

[1] World Health Organization. 2019. "Dominica - Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)".

[https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization. 2014. "Antimicrobial resistance: global report on surveillance".

[https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/112642/9789241564748\_eng.pdf?sequence=1]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2014. "AMR Surveillance in Dominica".

[http://carpha.org:8086/Portals/0/docs/MEETINGS/AMR%20Workshop/AMR%20Surveillance%20in%20Dominica.pdf]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] World Health Organization. 2019. "Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period".

[https://amrcountryprogress.org/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2018. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2017-2018".

[<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/28-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2017-2018>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] ReliefWeb. 2019. "PAHO responds to dengue outbreak in Dominica". [<https://reliefweb.int/report/dominica/paho-responds-dengue-outbreak-dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019".

[<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[11] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.1.1b

#### Is there a national laboratory/laboratory system which tests for priority AMR pathogens?

All 7 + 1 priority pathogens = 2 , Yes, but not all 7+1 pathogens = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national laboratory which tests for AMR pathogens. The World Health Organization (WHO) Library of National Action Plans does not list a plan for Dominica. [1] WHO's 2014 "Antimicrobial resistance: global report on surveillance" document includes Dominica, but states "No information obtained for this report" for the country. [2] In 2014, Dominica reported on the state of AMR surveillance in the country, stating that it was developing an AMR surveillance system and that laboratory capacity included "1 main public, 1 satellite and 1 private" laboratories. The report's "Areas for strengthening" include "Continuing education in microbiology" and "More advanced technology to increase identification of microorganisms". [3] WHO's 2018-2024 Country Cooperation Strategic Agenda for Dominica includes objective "2.2 Develop and or strengthen antimicrobial resistance surveillance". [4] The Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period states that the country's "National AMR surveillance activities for common bacterial infections follow national standards, and a national reference laboratory that participates in external quality assurance" (question 7.4). [5] Regarding "Effective integration of laboratories in the AMR surveillance", "standardization and harmonization of procedures among laboratories included in the AMR surveillance system", "diagnostic techniques used by laboratories included in the AMR surveillance system", and "Technical level of data management of the laboratory network in the AMR surveillance system", Dominica's survey response states "Information not available". [5] In October 2019, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) trained 36 individuals in the country on taking samples for AMR detection and surveillance. [6] A 2019 academic paper on AMR of *K. pneumoniae* in the Caribbean included Dominica. Laboratory testing for the study was not carried out in-country, and instead was performed at the supranational reference laboratory at the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), of which Dominica is a member. [7] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [8] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding a national laboratory which tests for AMR pathogens. [9, 10] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [11]

[1] World Health Organization. 2019. "Dominica - Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

- [2] World Health Organization. 2014. "Antimicrobial resistance: global report on surveillance". [[https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/112642/9789241564748\\_eng.pdf?sequence=1](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/112642/9789241564748_eng.pdf?sequence=1)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2014. "AMR Surveillance in Dominica". [<http://carpha.org:8086/Portals/0/docs/MEETINGS/AMR%20Workshop/AMR%20Surveillance%20in%20Dominica.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] World Health Organization. 2018. "Country Cooperation Strategy Brief - Dominica". [<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/272542/ccsbrief-dma-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] World Health Organization. 2019. "Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period". [<https://amrcountryprogress.org/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] ReliefWeb. 2019. "PAHO responds to dengue outbreak in Dominica". [<https://reliefweb.int/report/dominica/paho-responds-dengue-outbreak-dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Heinz, E., Brindle, R., Morgan-McCalla, A., Peters, K., & Thomson, N. R. 2019. "Caribbean multi-centre study of Klebsiella pneumoniae: whole-genome sequencing, antimicrobial resistance and virulence factors". [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6562249/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [10] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [11] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.1.1c

**Does the government conduct environmental detection or surveillance activities (e.g., in soil, waterways) for antimicrobial residues or AMR organisms?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica conducts environmental detection or surveillance activities (e.g., in soil, waterways) for antimicrobial residues or AMR organisms. The World Health Organization (WHO) Library of National Action Plans does not list a plan for Dominica. [1] WHO's 2014 "Antimicrobial resistance: global report on surveillance" document includes Dominica, but states "No information obtained for this report" for the country. [2] In 2014, Dominica reported on the state of AMR surveillance in the country but did not mention environmental detection or surveillance activities. [3] WHO's 2018-2024 Country Cooperation Strategic Agenda for Dominica includes objective "2.2 Develop and or strengthen antimicrobial resistance surveillance" but does not mention environmental detection or surveillance activities. [4] The Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture's (IICA) 2014-2018 Strategy for Dominica does not mention environmental detection or surveillance activities for AMR. [5] The Ministry of Health's (MOH) 2010 Strategic Plan for Health includes provisions for water quality monitoring by the Environmental Health Department, but the parameters do not include AMR residues or organisms. [6] the Environmental Health Services Act of 1997, Part VI, section 30 empowers the MOH to regulate water quality and testing but does not mention AMR residues or organisms. [7] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [8] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding environmental detection or surveillance activities for antimicrobial

residues or AMR organisms. [9, 10] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [11]

- [1] World Health Organization. 2019. "Dominica – Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] World Health Organization. 2014. "Antimicrobial resistance: global report on surveillance". [[https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/112642/9789241564748\\_eng.pdf?sequence=1](https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/112642/9789241564748_eng.pdf?sequence=1)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2014. "AMR Surveillance in Dominica". [<http://carpha.org:8086/Portals/0/docs/MEETINGS/AMR%20Workshop/AMR%20Surveillance%20in%20Dominica.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] World Health Organization. 2018. "Country Cooperation Strategy Brief – Dominica". [<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/272542/ccsbrief-dma-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA). 2014. IICA Strategy for Dominica 2014-2018. [<http://repositorio.iica.int/bitstream/11324/4202/1/BVE17099215i.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health". [[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1997. "Environmental Health Services Act of 1997". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Environmental\\_Health\\_Services\\_Act.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Environmental_Health_Services_Act.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [10] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [11] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.1.2 Antimicrobial control

### 1.1.2a

**Is there national legislation or regulation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for humans?**

Yes = 2 , Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in enforcement = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 2**

The Commonwealth of Dominica has national legislation or regulation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for humans, and there is insufficient public evidence of gaps in enforcement. The Antibiotics Act, Article 13, most recently updated in 1991, mandates that antibiotics can only be sold with a prescription from a "medical practitioner, dentist or veterinary surgeon". [1] Dominica's 2012 "Pharmaceutical Country Profile" noted that "sometimes antibiotics and injectable medicines are sold over-the-counter without a prescription". [2] However, press reports from 2013 and 2014 on proper use of antibiotics in Dominica did not mention sales without a prescription, instead reiterating that patients should complete the full course of antibiotics and avoid taking leftover antibiotics from another individual's prescription. [3, 4] The Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period states that the "Country has laws or regulations on prescription and sale of antimicrobials, for human use", but there

is "No national plan or system for monitoring use of antimicrobials" for human health and "No/weak national policies for appropriate use" antimicrobials for human health. [5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding legislation or regulation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for humans. [7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [9]

- [1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1991. "Act 8 of 1958, Amended 1991, Antibiotics Act Chapter 40:06." [<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap40-06.pdf>].
- [2] Ministry of Health. 2012. "Pharmaceutical Country Profile". [<https://www.paho.org/hq/dmdocuments/2013/PHARMACEUTICAL-COUNTRY-PROFILE-DOMINICA.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Dominica Vibes. 2013. "Public warned against misusing antibiotics". [<https://www.dominicavibes.dm/news-95139/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Dominica News Online. 2014. "HEALTH TALK: The truth about antibiotics". [<https://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/columns/health-talk/health-talk-truth-antibiotics/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] World Health Organization. 2019. "Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period". [<https://amrcountryprogress.org/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.1.2b

#### Is there national legislation or regulation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for animals?

Yes = 2 , Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in enforcement = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 2**

The Commonwealth of Dominica has national legislation or regulation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for animals, and there is no public evidence of gaps in enforcement. The Antibiotics Act, Article 13, most recently updated in 1991, mandates that antibiotics can only be sold with a prescription from a "medical practitioner, dentist or veterinary surgeon". The requirement for a prescription does not differentiate between human or animal users. [1] Regarding antibiotics for animal use, sub-paragraph (c) of Article 13 states that the prescription must "specify the name and address of the person for whose treatment it is given or, if it is given by a veterinary surgeon, of the person to whom the medicine is to be delivered". [1] The Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period states that the "Country has laws or regulations on prescription and sale of antimicrobials for animal use", but there is "No national plan or system for monitoring sales/use of antimicrobials in animals" and "No national policy or legislation regarding the quality, safety and efficacy of antimicrobial products, and their distribution, sale or use" for animal health. [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding legislation or

regulation in place requiring prescriptions for antibiotic use for animals. [4, 5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [6]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1991. "Act 8 of 1958, Amended 1991, Antibiotics Act Chapter 40:06." [http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap40-06.pdf]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization. 2019. "Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period". [https://amrcountryprogress.org/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [http://agriculture.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [https://dominica.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.2 ZOOBOTIC DISEASE

### 1.2.1 National planning for zoonotic diseases/pathogens

#### 1.2.1a

**Is there national legislation, plans, or equivalent strategy documents on zoonotic disease?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has national legislation, plans, or equivalent strategy documents on zoonotic disease. The Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by Act 12 of 1990) deals with animal diseases broadly and includes some zoonotic diseases among the diseases covered by the act but does not refer to zoonotic disease specifically or discuss animal diseases as risks to human health. Zoonotic diseases named under the act's mandate include anthrax and rabies. [1] Article 10 clauses (i), (j), and (k) discusses cleaning and sanitation protocols to prevent the spread of animal diseases. [1] The act includes controls on importations of animals and regulates treatment and disposal of animals with any disease. Article 5 details the procedure for animal owners to report infected animals. The Minister of Agriculture has the ability to declare any state infected (Articles 3 and 4) and has latitude to create special orders to address infected areas by restricting movement of animals, ordering disinfecting, or even slaughtering of an infected animal (Article 10). The law also lays out punishments for those who fail to follow its regulations. [1] The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 include anthrax, leptospirosis, plague, and other zoonotic diseases on the list of diseases that must be reported to the Ministry of Health. The regulations do not refer to zoonotic disease specifically or discuss animal diseases as risks to human health. [2] Reports indicate the presence of "vector-borne diseases such as dengue and leptospirosis" as "major concerns" in Dominica. [3, 4, 5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding national legislation, plans, or equivalent strategy documents on zoonotic disease. [7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [9]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02." [http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf]. Accessed 27 January 2021.



- [2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. "Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2015. "Rapid Damage and Impact Assessment Tropical Storm Erika". [<https://info.undp.org/docs/pdc/Documents/BRB/Commonwealth%20of%20Dominica%20-%20Rapid%20Damage%20and%20Needs%20Assessment%20Final%20Report%20-Oct5.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Government Information Service. "CaribVET Workshop convened to develop health strategy for Leptospirosis". [<http://news.gov.dm/news/957-caribvet-workshop-convened-to-develop-health-strategy-for-leptospirosis>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2017. "Health in the Americas – Dominica". [<https://www.paho.org/salud-en-las-americas-2017/?p=1235>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.2.1b

**Is there national legislation, plans or equivalent strategy document(s) which includes measures for risk identification and reduction for zoonotic disease spillover events from animals to humans?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has national legislation, plans or equivalent strategy document(s) which includes measures for risk identification and reduction for zoonotic disease spillover events from animals to humans. Dominica does not have national legislation or plans regarding zoonotic disease. The Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by Act 12 of 1990) deals with animal diseases broadly and includes some zoonotic diseases among the diseases covered by the act but does not refer to zoonotic disease specifically or discuss zoonotic disease spillover events from animals to humans. Zoonotic diseases named under the act's mandate include anthrax and rabies. [1] Under the act, the Minister of Agriculture has the ability to declare any state infected (Articles 3 and 4) and has latitude to create special orders to address infected areas by restricting movement of animals, ordering disinfecting, or even slaughtering of an infected animal (Article 10). The law also lays out punishments for those who fail to follow its regulations. [1] The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 include anthrax, leptospirosis, plague, and other zoonotic diseases on the list of diseases that must be reported to the Ministry of Health. The regulations do not refer to zoonotic disease specifically or discuss zoonotic disease spillover events from animals to humans. [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding national legislation, plans or equivalent strategy document(s) which includes measures for risk identification and reduction for zoonotic disease spillover events from animals to humans. [4, 5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [6]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02." [<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. "Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.2.1c

**Is there national legislation, plans, or guidelines that account for the surveillance and control of multiple zoonotic pathogens of public health concern?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has national legislation, plans, or guidelines that account for the surveillance and control of multiple zoonotic pathogens of public health concern. The Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by Act 12 of 1990) deals with animal diseases broadly and includes some zoonotic diseases among the diseases covered by the act but does not refer to zoonotic disease specifically or discuss animal diseases as risks to human health. Zoonotic diseases named under the act's mandate include anthrax and rabies. [1] In terms of control, articles 14 and 15 outline the Minister of Agriculture's authority to quarantine domestic or imported animals. Article 20 gives inspectors, officers, and the Chief Technical Officer the authority to enter any location, structure, vehicle, or vessel at any time day or night to inspect an area suspected of having infected animals. [1] Animal Diseases (Importation) Control Regulations made under section 12 of the subsidiary legislation section within the Animal Diseases Act includes importation control regulations for specific animals and mandates animals can only enter via Roseau, Portsmouth, or other official ports of entry. The Anthrax Order (made under section 10) describes in detail the procedures that animal owners, inspector, or veterinary surgeon, of a suspected or infected animal must take, starting with reporting to the nearest police station, which serves as the conduit for reporting to the government of the Commonwealth of Dominica. This detailed order also includes the forms necessary to notify the public of an infected place. Similar guidelines are listed for rabies. [1] In January 2020, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) reported that it had trained "15 veterinarians and veterinary extension workers, as well as one poultry farmer" in the "recognition of and response to priority animal and zoonotic diseases in Dominica". [2] The project also included the creation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for laboratory testing for zoonotic diseases in the country. The SOPs are not publicly available. [2, 6] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding national legislation, plans, or guidelines that account for the surveillance and control of multiple zoonotic pathogens of public health concern. [4, 5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [6]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02." [<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). 2020. "STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL AND TECHNICAL CAPACITY FOR PROVIDING AGRICULTURAL SERVICES IN DOMINICA". [<http://www.fao.org/3/ca8999en/CA8999EN.pdf>].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.2.1d

#### Is there a department, agency, or similar unit dedicated to zoonotic disease that functions across ministries?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a department, agency, or similar unit dedicated to zoonotic disease that functions across ministries. In terms of receiving reports of animal diseases, the Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by Act 12 of 1990) discusses the police department and the role of the Chief Technical Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture as the entities for receiving reports on incidents and coordinating with local entities to address animal diseases, including some zoonotic diseases (such as anthrax and rabies) included under the act. [1] The act deals with animal diseases broadly and includes some zoonotic diseases among the diseases covered by the act but does not refer to zoonotic disease specifically or discuss animal diseases as risks to human health. [1] The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 include anthrax, leptospirosis, plague, and other zoonotic diseases on the list of diseases that must be reported to the Ministry of Health. The regulations do not refer to zoonotic disease specifically or discuss a unit dedicated to zoonotic disease that functions across ministries. [2] The World Health Organization's (WHO) 2018-2024 Country Cooperation Strategic Agenda for Dominica includes objective "2.3 Strengthen capacity for integrated management of vector borne diseases including source reduction". [3] Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator "C.3.1 Collaborative effort on activities to address zoonoses". [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding a department, agency, or similar unit dedicated to zoonotic disease that functions across ministries. [6, 7] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [8]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02." [<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. "Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] World Health Organization. 2018. "Country Cooperation Strategy Brief – Dominica". [<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/272542/ccsbrief-dma-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] World Health Organization. 2018. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.2.2 Surveillance systems for zoonotic diseases/pathogens

### 1.2.2a

**Does the country have a national mechanism (either voluntary or mandatory) for owners of livestock to conduct and report on disease surveillance to a central government agency?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national mechanism (either voluntary or mandatory) for owners of livestock to conduct and report on disease surveillance to a central government agency. The Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990) requires that anyone with possession of an animal that has or is suspected of having a disease (including zoonotic diseases such as anthrax and rabies), to "with all practicable speed, give notice of the animal being or having been so affected or suspected, to the police officer in charge of the nearest police station" (Article 5). This police department will then report it to the Chief Technical Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture. [1] However, there is no public evidence of a dedicated hotline or portal for reporting animal diseases. The websites of the Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security and Division of Agriculture do not contain a reporting mechanism. [2, 3] The Division of Agriculture's Livestock Development and Veterinary Unit (a department of the Ministry of Agriculture) provides disease monitoring and surveillance control, specifically awareness and prevention programs for Avian Influenza (H1N1), foot and mouth disease, bovine spongiform encephalopathy, classic swine fever, and leptospirosis. The unit does not mention a disease reporting mechanism. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding a department, agency, or similar unit dedicated to zoonotic disease that functions across ministries. [2, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [7]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02." [<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Division of Agriculture. 2021. "Home". [<http://divisionofagriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Division of Agriculture. 2021. "Livestock Development and Veterinary Unit". [<http://divisionofagriculture.gov.dm/units/livestock-development-veterinary-unit>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.2.2b

**Is there legislation and/or regulations that safeguard the confidentiality of information generated through surveillance activities for animals (for owners)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has legislation and/or regulations that safeguard the confidentiality of information generated through surveillance activities for animals (for owners). The Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990) requires that anyone with possession of an animal that has or is suspected of having a disease (including zoonotic diseases such as anthrax and rabies), to “with all practicable speed, give notice of the animal being or having been so affected or suspected, to the police officer in charge of the nearest police station” (Article 5). [1] The act does not discuss confidentiality or protection of owners’ information. [1] The Census and Statistics Act of 1986 protects the confidentiality of business information and “the affairs of an individual household or person” collected under the act (Section 12). The act does not specifically mention animal owners or surveillance information. [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding the confidentiality of information generated through surveillance activities for animals. [4, 5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [6]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02." [<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1986. "Census and Statistics Act of 1986". [<https://stats.gov.dm/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CENSUS-AND-STATISTICS-ACT.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.2.2c

**Does the country conduct surveillance of zoonotic disease in wildlife (e.g., wild animals, insects, other disease vectors)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica conducts surveillance of zoonotic disease in wildlife (e.g., wild animals, insects, other disease vectors). The Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990) discusses surveillance of animal diseases, but not zoonotic diseases specifically, defining animals as “bulls, cows, oxen, steers, heifers, calves, horses, mules, asses, sheep, swine, goats, dogs and all animals of whatsoever kind, whether similar to the foregoing or not” (Section 2). [1] A 2020 academic study on the prevalence of rabies in bat populations in the Caribbean noted that Dominica did not have any reports of bat rabies but was considered high risk and broadly there was a “need for further surveillance efforts in bat populations”. The article did not mention any ongoing wildlife surveillance in Dominica. [2] In 2018, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) conducted training to strengthen Dominica’s agriculture health

surveillance, but there was no mention of surveillance among wildlife or zoonotic disease. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding surveillance of zoonotic disease in wildlife. [5, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [7]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02."

[<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Morgan, Clint N., et al. 2020. "Risk Modeling of Bat Rabies in the Caribbean Islands".

[[https://res.mdpi.com/d\\_attachment/tropicalmed/tropicalmed-05-00035/article\\_deploy/tropicalmed-05-00035-v2.pdf](https://res.mdpi.com/d_attachment/tropicalmed/tropicalmed-05-00035/article_deploy/tropicalmed-05-00035-v2.pdf)].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Dominica Vibes. 2018. "FAO helping to strengthen Dominica's agriculture health surveillance".

[<https://www.dominicavibes.dm/business-241270/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27

January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27

January 2021.

### 1.2.3 International reporting of animal disease outbreaks

#### 1.2.3a

Has the country submitted a report to OIE on the incidence of human cases of zoonotic disease for the last calendar year?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2019

OIE WAHIS database

### 1.2.4 Animal health workforce

#### 1.2.4a

Number of veterinarians per 100,000 people

Input number

Current Year Score: -

No data available

OIE WAHIS database

### 1.2.4b

#### Number of veterinary para-professionals per 100,000 people

Input number

Current Year Score: -

No data available

OIE WAHIS database

## 1.2.5 Private sector and zoonotic

### 1.2.5a

#### Does the national plan on zoonotic disease or other legislation, regulations, or plans include mechanisms for working with the private sector in controlling or responding to zoonoses?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national plan on zoonotic disease or other legislation, regulations, or plans that include mechanisms for working with the private sector in controlling or responding to zoonoses. The Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by Act 12 of 1990) deals with animal diseases broadly and includes some zoonotic diseases among the diseases covered by the act but does not refer to zoonotic disease specifically or discuss animal diseases as risks to human health. Zoonotic diseases named under the act's mandate include anthrax and rabies. [1] The act does not include mechanisms for working with the private sector in controlling or responding to zoonoses. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding surveillance of zoonotic disease in wildlife. [3, 4] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [5]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02." [<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.3 BIOSECURITY

### 1.3.1 Whole-of- government biosecurity systems

#### 1.3.1a

**Does the country have in place a record, updated within the past five years, of the facilities in which especially dangerous pathogens and toxins are stored or processed, including details on inventories and inventory management systems of those facilities?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has in place a record, updated within the past five years, of the facilities in which especially dangerous pathogens and toxins are stored or processed, including details on inventories and inventory management systems of those facilities. In 2017, Dominica sent “dangerous obsolete pesticide stocks” to the United Kingdom for their proper disposal. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding a record of the facilities in which especially dangerous pathogens and toxins are stored or processed. [3, 4, 5, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [7] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [8]

[1] TheDominican.net. 2017. “Eleven Caribbean countries remove significant amounts of obsolete pesticides stocks”.

[<https://thedomincan.net/2017/11/caribbean-countries-remove-obsolete-pesticides.html>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. “Home”. [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. “Dominica”.

[<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. “BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal”. [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

#### 1.3.1b

**Does the country have in place legislation and/or regulations related to biosecurity which address requirements such as physical containment, operation practices, failure reporting systems, and/or cybersecurity of facilities in which especially dangerous pathogens and toxins are stored or processed?**



Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has in place legislation and/or regulations related to biosecurity which address requirements such as physical containment, operation practices, failure reporting systems, and/or cybersecurity of facilities in which especially dangerous pathogens and toxins are stored or processed. Dominica’s 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator “C5.2 Implementation of a laboratory biosafety and biosecurity regime”. [1] The World Health Organization’s (WHO) Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security page for Dominica lists “Biosafety and Biosecurity” as a “Technical Area in Need” for which the country requires support. [2] The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 do not mention biosecurity. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding legislation and/or regulations related to biosecurity. [5, 6, 7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [9] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [10]

[1] World Health Organization. 2018. “IHR Score per capacity - Dominica”. [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization. 2019. “Dominica – Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)”. [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. “Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations”. [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. “Home”. [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. “Dominica”. [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. “BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal”. [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

**1.3.1c**

**Is there an established agency (or agencies) responsible for the enforcement of biosecurity legislation and regulations?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has an established agency (or agencies) responsible for the enforcement of biosecurity legislation and regulations. There is no public evidence that Dominica has biosecurity legislation and regulations. Dominica’s 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator “C5.2 Implementation of a laboratory biosafety and biosecurity regime”. [1] The World Health Organization’s (WHO) Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security page for Dominica lists “Biosafety and Biosecurity” as a “Technical Area in Need” for which the country requires support. [2] The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 do not mention biosecurity. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding an established agency responsible for the enforcement of biosecurity legislation and regulations. [5, 6, 7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [9] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [10]

[1] World Health Organization. 2018. “IHR Score per capacity - Dominica”. [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization. 2019. “Dominica – Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)”. [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. “Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations”. [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. “Home”. [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. “Dominica”. [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. “BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal”. [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

**1.3.1d**

**Is there public evidence that shows that the country has taken action to consolidate its inventories of especially dangerous pathogens and toxins into a minimum number of facilities?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has taken action to consolidate its inventories of especially dangerous pathogens and toxins into a minimum number of facilities. In 2017, Dominica, along with other Caribbean states, sent “dangerous obsolete pesticide stocks” to the United Kingdom for their proper disposal. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding action to consolidate its inventories of especially dangerous pathogens and toxins into a minimum number of facilities. [3, 4, 5, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [7] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [8]

- [1] TheDominican.net. 2017. “Eleven Caribbean countries remove significant amounts of obsolete pesticides stocks”. [<https://thedomincan.net/2017/11/caribbean-countries-remove-obsolete-pesticides.html>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. “Home”. [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. “Dominica”. [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. “BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal”. [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.3.1e

**Is there public evidence of in-country capacity to conduct Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)–based diagnostic testing for anthrax and/or Ebola, which would preclude culturing a live pathogen?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has in-country capacity to conduct Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)–based diagnostic testing for anthrax and/or Ebola, which would preclude culturing a live pathogen. In 2019, the Pan American Health Organization trained hospital staff in Dominica to use a recently donated PCR diagnostic machine for chikungunya and Zika arboviruses. [1] In 2020, Dominica received PCR test kits for COVID-19. [2] Neither report mentions the ability to conduct PCR tests for anthrax or Ebola. [1, 2] In the animal health sector, in 2016, the Ministry of Agriculture obtained a PCR diagnostic test machine to be used to test for animal and plant diseases. [3] There is no evidence that the ministry has the ability to conduct PCR tests for anthrax or Ebola. [3, 4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding in-country capacity to conduct Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)–based diagnostic testing for anthrax and/or Ebola.

[6, 7, 8, 9] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [10] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [11]

[1] ReliefWeb. 2019. "PAHO responds to dengue outbreak in Dominica". [<https://reliefweb.int/report/dominica/paho-responds-dengue-outbreak-dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] The Chronicle. 2020. "China hand over donation of medical supplies". [<https://thedominicachronicle.com/china-hand-over-donation-of-medical-supplies/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Dominica News Online. 2016. "Dominica Uses Realtime Diagnoses in Agriculture." [<http://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/news/agriculture/dominica-uses-real-time-diagnosis-in-agriculture/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. "Banana Accompanying Measures (BAM) Program." [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/projects/37-bam-project>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[11] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.3.2 Biosecurity training and practices

### 1.3.2a

**Does the country require biosecurity training, using a standardized, required approach, such as through a common curriculum or a train-the-trainer program, for personnel working in facilities housing or working with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica requires biosecurity training, using a standardized, required approach, such as through a common curriculum or a train-the-trainer program, for personnel working in facilities housing or working with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential. In 2016, the Dominica Poultry Association, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and international partners hosted an "Avian Influenza and Biosecurity Workshop" for poultry farmers and animal health professionals. There is no public evidence that the training focused on personnel working in facilities housing or working with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential. [1] In 2014, the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) hosted a "Shipping Infectious Substances" course in which laboratory personnel from across the Caribbean participated. The course was publicized in

national media in Dominica, but the article does not specifically state that personnel from Dominica attended. One of the training's goals was to train-the-trainer. [2, 3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding biosecurity training. [5, 6, 7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [9] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [10]

- [1] Division of Agriculture. 2016. "Avian Influenza and Biosecurity Workshop". [http://divisionofagriculture.gov.dm/announcement/blog/59-avian-influenza-and-biosecurity-workshop]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] Caribbean Community. 2014. "Carpha Workshops To Strengthen The Caribbean's Ability To Respond To Ebola". [https://caricom.org/carpha-workshops-to-strengthen-the-caribbeans-ability-to-respond-to-ebola/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Dominica News Online. 27 November 2014. "CARPHA trains personnel to better manage outbreak situations in region." [http://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/news/health/carpha-trains-personnel-better-manage-outbreak-situations-region/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica". [https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [http://agriculture.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [https://dominica.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [10] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.3.3 Personnel vetting: regulating access to sensitive locations

#### 1.3.3a

**Do regulations or licensing conditions specify that security and other personnel with access to especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential are subject to the following checks: drug testing, background checks, and psychological or mental fitness checks?**

Personnel are subject to all three of these checks = 3, Personnel are subject to two of these checks = 2, Personnel are subject to one of these checks = 1, Personnel are not subject to any of these checks = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has regulations or licensing conditions specifying that security and other personnel with access to especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic

potential are subject to the following checks: drug testing, background checks, and psychological or mental fitness checks. The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [1] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding regulations or licensing conditions specify that security and other personnel with access to especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential are subject to personnel vetting. [2, 3, 4, 5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [6] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [7]

[1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.3.4 Transportation security

#### 1.3.4a

**Does the country have publicly available information on national regulations on the safe and secure transport of infectious substances (specifically including Categories A and B)?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has national regulations on the safe and secure transport of infectious substances (specifically including Categories A and B). A 2016 draft bill for the Climate Change, Environment and Natural Resource Management Act references Category A & B infectious substances regarding safe transport. There is no public evidence that the bill has been passed into law. [1, 2] In 2014, the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) hosted a "Shipping Infectious Substances" course in which 14 laboratory personnel from 12 countries across the Caribbean participated. The course was publicized in national media in Dominica, but the article does not specifically state that personnel from Dominica attended. The training included specific reference to Category A & B infectious substances. [3, 4] The Ministry of Health has also received technical assistance on shipping infectious substances in compliance with International Air Transport Association regulations. [5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives, and Verification Research, Training and Information

Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding national regulations on the safe and secure transport of infectious substances (specifically including Categories A and B). [6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [2] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [12]

- [1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2016. "Draft Climate Change, Environment and Natural Resource Management Act". [[http://ecu.gov.dm/images/documents/training/biosafety\\_2016/Session%20-%20Dominica%20Climate%20Change%20Environment%20and%20Development%20Draft%20Bill%20-%20Biosafety%20Chapter.doc](http://ecu.gov.dm/images/documents/training/biosafety_2016/Session%20-%20Dominica%20Climate%20Change%20Environment%20and%20Development%20Draft%20Bill%20-%20Biosafety%20Chapter.doc)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Dominica News Online. 27 November 2014. "CARPHA trains personnel to better manage outbreak situations in region." [<http://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/news/health/carpha-trains-personnel-better-manage-outbreak-situations-region/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Caribbean Community. 2014. "Carpha Workshops To Strengthen The Caribbean's Ability To Respond To Ebola". [<https://caricom.org/carpha-workshops-to-strengthen-the-caribbeans-ability-to-respond-to-ebola/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health – Volume 2". [[http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/index.php?option=com\\_phocadownload&view=category&download=29:strategic-health-plan-volume-2&id=14:publications&Itemid=234](http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/index.php?option=com_phocadownload&view=category&download=29:strategic-health-plan-volume-2&id=14:publications&Itemid=234)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [10] Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives. 2021. "Home". [<http://tourism.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [11] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [12] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.3.5 Cross-border transfer and end-user screening

#### 1.3.5a

Is there legislation and/or regulations in place to oversee the cross-border transfer and end-user screening of especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, and pathogens with pandemic potential?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has legislation and/or regulations in place to oversee the cross-border transfer and end-user screening of especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, and pathogens with pandemic potential. The Customs Act of 2010 regulates the importation and exportation of goods in Dominica. The act requires licenses for importation of some agricultural goods and prohibits importation of infected animals but does not mention end-user screening or cross-border transfer of especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, and pathogens with pandemic potential. [1, 2] Dominica's Noxious and Dangerous Substances (Control) Act (Act 4 of 1982, Amended 1991, Chapter 40:09), regulates "the control of noxious and dangerous substances, for the licensing and storage of such substances and for the purposes connected therewith and incidental thereto". Section 2 defines noxious and dangerous substances but does not include especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, and pathogens with pandemic potential in the definition. The act does not mention end-user screening or cross-border transfer of substances. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding the cross-border transfer and end-user screening of especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, and pathogens with pandemic potential. [5, 6, 7, 8, 9] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [10] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [11]

- [1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2010. "Customs Act of 2010". [[http://www.customs.gov.dm/images/documents/dominica\\_customs\\_act\\_no\\_20\\_of\\_2010.pdf](http://www.customs.gov.dm/images/documents/dominica_customs_act_no_20_of_2010.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] Customs and Excise Division. 2021. "Prohibited and Restricted Items". [<http://www.customs.gov.dm/index.php/features/prohibited-and-restricted-items>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1991. "Noxious and Dangerous Substances (Control) Act". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Noxious\\_and\\_Dangerous\\_Substances\\_Control\\_Act.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Noxious_and_Dangerous_Substances_Control_Act.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives. 2021. "Home". [<http://tourism.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [10] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [11] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.



## 1.4 BIOSAFETY

### 1.4.1 Whole-of-government biosafety systems

#### 1.4.1a

Does the country have in place national biosafety legislation and/or regulations?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has in place national biosafety legislation and/or regulations. Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator "C5.2 Implementation of a laboratory biosafety and biosecurity regime". [1] The World Health Organization's (WHO) Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security page for Dominica lists "Biosafety and Biosecurity" as a "Technical Area in Need" for which the country requires support. [2] The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 do not mention biosafety. [3] In 2004, the government issued a draft Biosafety and Biotechnology Management Bill. The bill deals with biosafety in terms of genetically modified organisms (GMO) and there is no public evidence that it was passed into law. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding legislation and/or regulations related to biosafety. [6, 7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [9] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [10]

[1] World Health Organization. 2018. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization. 2019. "Dominica – Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. "Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2004. "Biosafety and Biotechnology Management Bill". [<https://caribbeanbiosafety.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Dominica-NBF.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc->

ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.4.1b

**Is there an established agency responsible for the enforcement of biosafety legislation and regulations?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has an established agency responsible for the enforcement of biosafety legislation and regulations. There is no public evidence that Dominica has biosafety legislation and regulations. Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator "C5.2 Implementation of a laboratory biosafety and biosecurity regime". [1] The World Health Organization's (WHO) Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security page for Dominica lists "Biosafety and Biosecurity" as a "Technical Area in Need" for which the country requires support. [2] The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 do not mention biosafety. [3] In 2004, the government issued a draft Biosafety and Biotechnology Management Bill. The bill deals with biosafety in terms of genetically modified organisms (GMO) and there is no public evidence that it was passed into law. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding an established agency responsible for the enforcement of biosafety legislation and regulations. [6, 7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [9] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [10]

[1] World Health Organization. 2018. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization. 2019. "Dominica – Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. "Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2004. "Biosafety and Biotechnology Management Bill". [<https://caribbeanbiosafety.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Dominica-NBF.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.4.2 Biosafety training and practices

### 1.4.2a

**Does the country require biosafety training, using a standardized, required approach, such as through a common curriculum or a train-the-trainer program, for personnel working in facilities housing or working with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica requires biosafety training, using a standardized, required approach, such as through a common curriculum or a train-the-trainer program, for personnel working in facilities housing or working with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, or biological materials with pandemic potential. There is no public evidence that Dominica has biosafety legislation and regulations. In 2020, the Pan American Health Organization trained four laboratory employees in Dominica on “the required biosafety measures for handling COVID-19 samples and sample shipping procedures to international reference laboratories”. [1] In the agricultural sector, in 2016, poultry farmers and animal health professionals participated in a “Bird Flu and bio-safety workshop”. [2] A separate 2016 series of biosafety training sessions hosted by the Environmental Coordinating Unit were focused on biosafety as it relates to genetically modified organisms (GMO). [3] The World Health Organization’s (WHO) Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security page for Dominica lists “Biosafety and Biosecurity” as a “Technical Area in Need” for which the country requires support. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding biosafety training. [6, 7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [9] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [10]

[1] Pan American Health Organization. 2020. “PAHO prepares Dominica for COVID-19 testing”.

[[https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=730:paho-prepares-dominica-for-covid-19-testing&Itemid=332](https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=730:paho-prepares-dominica-for-covid-19-testing&Itemid=332)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Government Information Service. 2016. “Poultry Farmers Learn about Bird Flu and Bio-Safety”.

[<http://news.gov.dm/news/3427-poultry-farmers-learn-about-bird-flu-and-bio-safety>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Environmental Coordinating Unit. 2016. “Biosafety training”. [<http://ecu.gov.dm/training/4-biosafety-training-2016>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] World Health Organization. 2019. “Dominica – Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)”.

[<https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. “Dominica”.

[<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. “BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal”. [[COUNTRY SCORE JUSTIFICATIONS AND REFERENCES](https://bwc-</a></p>
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ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.5 DUAL-USE RESEARCH AND CULTURE OF RESPONSIBLE SCIENCE

### 1.5.1 Oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research

#### 1.5.1a

Is there publicly available evidence that the country has conducted an assessment to determine whether ongoing research is occurring on especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has conducted an assessment to determine whether ongoing research is occurring on especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research. The World Health Organization's (WHO) Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security page for Dominica lists "Biosafety and Biosecurity" as a "Technical Area in Need" for which the country requires support. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding an assessment to determine whether ongoing research is occurring on especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research. [3, 4, 5, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [7] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [8]

[1] World Health Organization. 2019. "Dominica - Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)".

[<https://extranet.who.int/sph/country/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica".

[<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.5.1b

**Is there legislation and/or regulation requiring oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has legislation and/or regulation requiring oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research. The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 do not mention oversight of research. [1] The Animal Diseases Act (Act 15 of 1952, Amended by Act 12 of 1990) does not mention oversight of research. [2] The Ministry of Health's (MOH) 2010 Strategic Plan for Health does not deal with dual-use research. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding legislation and/or regulation requiring oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research. [5, 6, 7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [9] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [10]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. "Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1990. "Act 15 of 1952, Amended by 12 of 1990, Animal Diseases Act Chapter 61:02." [<http://www.dominica.gov.dm/laws/chapters/chap61-02.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health". [[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 1.5.1c

**Is there an agency responsible for oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has an agency responsible for oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research. Dominica's Noxious and Dangerous Substances (Control) Act (Act 4 of 1982, Amended 1991, Chapter 40:09), regulates "the control of noxious and dangerous substances, for the licensing and storage of such substances and for the purposes connected therewith and incidental thereto". Section 2 defines noxious and dangerous substances but does not include especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, and pathogens with pandemic potential in the definition. Under the act, the Ministry of Trade is tasked with oversight of the substances it covers. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding an agency responsible for oversight of research with especially dangerous pathogens, toxins, pathogens with pandemic potential and/or other dual-use research. [3, 4, 5, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [7] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [8]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1991. "Noxious and Dangerous Substances (Control) Act".

[[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Noxious\\_and\\_Dangerous\\_Substances\\_Control\\_Act.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Noxious_and_Dangerous_Substances_Control_Act.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. "Dominica".

[<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. "BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal". [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.5.2 Screening guidance for providers of genetic material

### 1.5.2a

**Is there legislation and/or regulation requiring the screening of synthesized DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) against lists of known pathogens and toxins before it is sold?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has legislation and/or regulation requiring the screening of synthesized DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) against lists of known pathogens and toxins before it is sold. According to Dominica’s 2015 “Third National Report on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety”, the country does not “regulate the transboundary movement, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) which are pharmaceuticals”, “regulate the transit of LMOs”, or “regulate the contained use of LMOs”. The report does not specifically mention screening of synthesized DNA. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC) do not contain additional public information regarding legislation and/or regulation requiring the screening of synthesized DNA. [3, 4, 5, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [7] Although Dominica is party to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), it has not shared Confidence Building Measures, so there is no additional information on this subject shared via reports to the BWC. [8]

[1] Environmental Coordinating Unit. 2015. “Third National Report on the implementation of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety”. [<https://bch.cbd.int/database/record.shtml?documentid=109115>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC). 2021. “Dominica”. [<https://www.vertic.org/programmes/biological-weapons-and-materials/bwc-legislation-database/d/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. “Home”. [<http://nationalsecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] United Nations Office at Geneva. 2020. “BWC Electronic Confidence Building Measures Portal”. [<https://bwc-ecbm.unog.ch/state/dominica>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 1.6 IMMUNIZATION

### 1.6.1 Vaccination rates

#### 1.6.1a

##### Immunization rate (measles/MCV2)

Immunization rate (measles/MCV2), 95% or greater = 2, 80-94.9% = 1, Less than 80%, or no data = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

2019

World Health Organization

### 1.6.1b

Are official foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) vaccination figures for livestock publicly available through the OIE database?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2020

OIE WAHIS database

## Category 2: Early detection and reporting for epidemics of potential international concern

### 2.1 LABORATORY SYSTEMS STRENGTH AND QUALITY

#### 2.1.1 Laboratory testing for detection of priority diseases

##### 2.1.1a

Does the national laboratory system have the capacity to conduct diagnostic tests for at least 5 of the 10 WHO-defined core tests?

Evidence they can conduct 5 of the 10 core tests and these tests are named = 2, Evidence they can conduct 5 of the 10 core tests and the tests are not named = 1, No evidence they can conduct 5 of the 10 core tests = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national laboratory system with the capacity to conduct diagnostic tests for at least 5 of the 10 WHO-defined core tests. There is no public evidence regarding Dominica's four country-defined core tests. [1] Government websites do not contain public information regarding a national laboratory system. [1] The Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) operates Dominica's national laboratory. [2, 3] Government websites do not contain public information regarding a list of tests performed by the PMH laboratory. [1] The PMH laboratory conducts HIV testing, but publicly available evidence does not state the testing method used. [3, 4] In addition, the PMH laboratory carries out tuberculosis surveillance, but publicly available evidence does not state the testing method used. [5] The government's National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 includes a goal to "Increase capacity of laboratory facilities to examine for and detect disease-causing pathogens". [6] One private laboratory in the country also performs HIV and other diagnostic tests, but there is no publicly available evidence regarding the types of tests offered. [3] Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 40% for indicator "C5.3 Access to laboratory testing capacity for priority diseases". [7] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [8] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding a national laboratory system with the capacity to conduct diagnostic tests for at least 5 of the 10 WHO-defined core tests. [9] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [1]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.



- [2] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".  
[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2014. "Growth and Social Protection Strategy (GSPS) 2014 – 2018".  
[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/gspgs\\_2014-2018.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/gspgs_2014-2018.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019".  
[<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. "National Resilience Development Strategy 2030".  
[[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] World Health Organization. 2018. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 2.1.1b

**Is there a national plan, strategy or similar document for conducting testing during a public health emergency, which includes considerations for testing for novel pathogens, scaling capacity, and defining goals for testing?**

Yes, there is evidence of a plan, and it includes considerations for testing for novel pathogens, scaling capacity, and defining goals for testing = 2, Yes, there is evidence of a plan, but there is insufficient evidence that it includes considerations for testing for novel pathogens, scaling capacity, and defining goals for testing = 1, No evidence of a plan = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national plan, strategy or similar document for conducting testing during a public health emergency, which includes considerations for testing for novel pathogens, scaling capacity, and defining goals for testing. The Quarantine Act of 1951 (last modified in 1974) does not contain a plan for conducting testing during a public health emergency. [1] The government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health noted the need to strengthen elements of public health preparedness including surveillance [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding a national plan, strategy or similar document for conducting testing during a public health emergency. [4, 5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [6]

- [1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1974. "Quarantine Act".  
[[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Quarantine\\_Act.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Quarantine_Act.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".  
[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice".

[<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 2.1.2 Laboratory quality systems

### 2.1.2a

**Is there a national laboratory that serves as a reference facility which is accredited (e.g., International Organization for Standardization [ISO] 15189:2003, U.S. Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments [CLIA])?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica's national laboratory that serves as a reference facility is accredited (e.g., International Organization for Standardization [ISO] 15189:2003, U.S. Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments [CLIA]). Multiple efforts have been made toward laboratory accreditation in the country over the past 15 years, but there is no public evidence that the national laboratory has achieved any accreditation. As recently as 2018, the government reported that laboratory staff had attended regional and international training sessions, including on "quality management". [1] In 2014, the Ministry of Health (MOH) posted a job listing for a "Laboratory Consultancy" aimed at training staff, developing a Quality Management System (QMS), and moving toward ISO 15189: 2012 accreditation. [2] There is no public evidence of the results of the consultancy. [3] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's health system noted, "There is no formal quality assurance system in place and no national quality assurance policies", and that the MOH's goals included to "establish a formal national quality management system". [4] The assessment also noted that in 2006 "two lab employees completed a graduate certificate program in quality management" and were developing a QMS. [4] The government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health stated that these two staff members were supposed to "form part of a core expert group of assessors that will support the functioning of the regional accreditation systems, as well as address requests for accreditation from regional medical laboratories". [5] There is no public evidence as to if this occurred, but Dominica has not achieved laboratory accreditation in the interim. [3] Beyond the health sector, the Dominica Bureau of Standards has stated that it is working "to procure the required laboratory equipment for accreditation of the laboratory to successfully carry out confirmatory tests for goods imported into Dominica". [6] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [7] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding accreditation of the national laboratory. [8, 9] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [3]

[1] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2018. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2017-2018".

[<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/28-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2017-2018>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health. 2014. "LABORATORY CONSULTANCY PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL".

[<https://www.dominicavibes.dm/consultancy-notice/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector

Assessment”. [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health. 2010. “Strategic Plan for Health”.

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Customs and Excise Division. 2021. “Customs & Trade Facilitation”. [<http://www.customs.gov.dm/index.php/customs-trade-facilitation>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 2.1.2b

**Is there a national laboratory that serves as a reference facility which is subject to external quality assurance review?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica’s national laboratory that serves as a reference facility is subject to external quality assurance (EQA) review. In 2011, laboratory staff from Dominica participated in the 11th Meeting of Caribbean National and Laboratory Directors with a presentation on “Laboratory EQA in Dominica”. [1] In 2012 Dominica received support to implement EQA for HIV testing in the country. [2, 3] The Global Database for the Tripartite Antimicrobial Resistance Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period states that “a national reference laboratory that participates in external quality assurance” participates in “National AMR surveillance activities”. [4] A 2019-2020 list of services from the United Kingdom National External Quality Assessment Service (UK NEQAS) states that it receives samples from a participating laboratory in Dominica. [5] In April 2020, the superintendent of the national laboratory stated that its PCR testing for COVID-19 was subject to “quality assurance”, saying “We run multiple control with every test run with the biologist from Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) who did the training”. [6]

[1] Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (CAREC). 2011. “11th Meeting of Caribbean National and Laboratory Directors”.

[<https://www.paho.org/hq/dmdocuments/2012/agenda-5.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2012. “GLOBAL AIDS REPORT 2012 NARRATIVE REPORT”.

[[https://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/country/documents/ce\\_DM\\_Narrative\\_Report\[1\].pdf](https://www.unaids.org/sites/default/files/country/documents/ce_DM_Narrative_Report[1].pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] African Field Epidemiology Network. “PEPFAR/AFENET Laboratory Strengthening Initiatives Caribbean Region”.

[[http://www.hivgateway.com/files/a257e104e4a624e930195b9ea7a10dd7/The\\_African\\_Field\\_Epidemiology\\_Network-PEPFARAFENET\\_Laboratory\\_Strengthening\\_Initiatives-Caribbean\\_Region.pdf](http://www.hivgateway.com/files/a257e104e4a624e930195b9ea7a10dd7/The_African_Field_Epidemiology_Network-PEPFARAFENET_Laboratory_Strengthening_Initiatives-Caribbean_Region.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] World Health Organization. 2019. “Country Self-assessment Survey (TrACSS) for Dominica for the 2018-19 period”.

[<https://amrcountryprogress.org/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] United Kingdom National External Quality Assessment Service (UK NEQAS). 2019. “2019/20 Services Available List”.

[<https://ukneqas.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/UK-NEQAS-Services-Available-Leaflet-2019-2020-FINAL.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Dominica News Online. 2020. “Dominica is well-equipped and ready to test for coronavirus – Lab Superintendent”.

[<https://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/homepage-carousel/dominica-is-well-equipped-and-ready-to-test-for->

coronavirus-lab-superintendent/]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.2 LABORATORY SUPPLY CHAINS

### 2.2.1 Specimen referral and transport system

#### 2.2.1a

**Is there a nationwide specimen transport system?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a nationwide specimen transport system. In practice a specimen transport system exists, but there is a lack of public evidence regarding its scope and operation. A 2012 assessment of Dominica's health system noted that blood samples from Dominica's second-largest city were routinely sent to the national laboratory at the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH). The assessment also noted that clerical systems related to specimen transport and testing were "manual and labor-intensive" and "because of the numbers of samples and the geographic spread, are open to errors". [1] According to the 2020 Implementation Status & Results Report for the World Bank's "OECS Regional Health Project", in which Dominica is a participant, the country's baseline JEE score for Question D.1.2. on "specimen referral and transportation systems" was 2 as of November 2019. The score of 2 corresponds to "limited capacity (system is in place to transport specimens to national labs from <50% of sub-national labs for advanced diagnostics)". [2] According to the Project Appraisal Document, the "Methodology for Data Collection" was "External and internal experts using JEE tool" and the "Responsibility for Data Collection" was with the "Ministry of Health Planning Unit". [3] In 2020, the Pan American Health Organization provided training to four laboratory staff members in Dominica to prepare for COVID-19 testing, including "sample shipping procedures to international reference laboratories". [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding a nationwide specimen transport system. [6, 7] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [8]

[1] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] World Bank. 2020. "Implementation Status & Results Report OECS Regional Health Project (P168539)". [http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/999021606245961476/pdf/Dislosable-Version-of-the-ISR-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-P168539-Sequence-No-03.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] World Bank. 2019. "Report No: PAD3148". [http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/164171567389660796/pdf/Organization-of-Eastern-Caribbean-States-OECS-Regional-Health-Project.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Pan American Health Organization. 2020. "PAHO prepares Dominica for COVID-19 testing". [https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=730:paho-prepares-dominica-for-covid-19-testing&Itemid=332]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [http://agriculture.gov.dm/].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.2.2 Laboratory cooperation and coordination

### 2.2.2a

**Is there a plan in place to rapidly authorize or license laboratories to supplement the capacity of the national public health laboratory system to scale-up testing during an outbreak?**

Yes = 2 , Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in implementation = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a plan in place to rapidly authorize or license laboratories to supplement the capacity of the national public health laboratory system to scale-up testing during an outbreak. A 2012 assessment of Dominica's health system noted that there was only one private laboratory, in addition to the government's national medical laboratory at the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH). [1] The Quarantine Act of 1951 (last modified in 1974) does not contain a plan to rapidly authorize or license laboratories to supplement the capacity of the national public health laboratory. [2] The government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health noted the need to strengthen "elements of public health preparedness", including "surveillance". [3, 4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding a plan in place to rapidly authorize or license laboratories to supplement the capacity of the national public health laboratory system to scale-up testing during an outbreak. [6, 7] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [8]

[1] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1974. "Quarantine Act".

[[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Quarantine\\_Act.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Quarantine_Act.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health – Volume 2".

[[http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/index.php?option=com\\_phocadownload&view=category&download=29:strategic-health-plan-volume-2&id=14:publications&Itemid=234](http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/index.php?option=com_phocadownload&view=category&download=29:strategic-health-plan-volume-2&id=14:publications&Itemid=234)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.3 REAL-TIME SURVEILLANCE AND REPORTING

### 2.3.1 Indicator and event-based surveillance and reporting systems

#### 2.3.1a

**Is there evidence that the country is conducting ongoing event-based surveillance and analysis for infectious disease?**

Yes, there is evidence of ongoing event-based surveillance and evidence that the data is being analyzed on a daily basis = 2,  
Yes, there is evidence of ongoing event-based surveillance, but no evidence that the data are being analyzed on a daily basis  
= 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica conducts ongoing event-based surveillance and analysis for infectious disease. According to the 2020 Implementation Status & Results Report for the World Bank's "OECS Regional Health Project", in which Dominica is a participant, the country's baseline JEE score for Question D.2.1. on "indicator and event-based surveillance" was 3 as of November 2019. The score of 3 corresponds to "developed capacity (indicator or event-based surveillance system in place)". [1] According to the Project Appraisal Document, the "Methodology for Data Collection" was "External and internal experts using JEE tool" and the "Responsibility for Data Collection" was with the "Ministry of Health Planning Unit". [2] The government's National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 includes a goal to "Develop an early warning system for climate sensitive diseases". [3] Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator "C6.1 Early warning function: indicator-and event-based surveillance". [4] The country's 2001 National Disaster Plan does not mention ongoing event-based surveillance and analysis for infectious disease. [5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding ongoing event-based surveillance and analysis for infectious disease. [7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [9]

[1] World Bank. 2020. "Implementation Status & Results Report OECS Regional Health Project (P168539)".

[<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/999021606245961476/pdf/Disclosable-Version-of-the-ISR-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-P168539-Sequence-No-03.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] World Bank. 2019. "Report No: PAD3148".

[<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/164171567389660796/pdf/Organization-of-Eastern-Caribbean-States-OECS-Regional-Health-Project.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. "National Resilience Development Strategy 2030".

[[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] World Health Organization. 2018. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001."

[[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 2.3.1b

**Is there publicly available evidence that the country reported a potential public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) to the WHO within the last two years?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has reported a potential public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) to the WHO within the last two years. The webpages of the World Health Organization (WHO) Disease Outbreak News (DON), WHO country page, and Pan American Health Organization country page do not contain reports of a PHEIC within the last two years. [1, 2, 3] In September 2019, Dominica "reported an 'above normal' increase of Dengue cases to the International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005), and assistance was requested from PAHO to deal with the outbreak". [4] Public information regarding this report does not state that the outbreak was reported as a PHEIC. [4] The last report from Dominica to WHO DON was a March 2016 report of Zika virus infection. [5] Dominica did not report COVID-19 as a PHEIC prior to January 31, 2020. [1, 2, 3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [7]

[1] World Health Organization (WHO). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.who.int/csr/don/archive/country/dma/en/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization (WHO). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.who.int/countries/dma/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.paho.org/en/dominica>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2019. "PAHO responds to dengue outbreak in Dominica".

[<https://reliefweb.int/report/dominica/paho-responds-dengue-outbreak-dominica>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[5] World Health Organization (WHO). 2016. "Zika virus infection - Dominica and Cuba". [<https://www.who.int/csr/don/29-march-2016-zika-dominica-and-cuba/en/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.3.2 Interoperable, interconnected, electronic real-time reporting systems

### 2.3.2a

**Does the government operate an electronic reporting surveillance system at both the national and the sub-national level?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica operates an electronic reporting surveillance system at both the national and the sub-national level. There are reports over the past decade of the government's efforts to introduce electronic health information systems, including electronic reporting of surveillance data, but there is a lack of definitive public evidence that such a system has been implemented. The Ministry of Health's (MOH) 2010 Strategic Plan for

Health (SPH) noted that "data collection forms were designed to accommodate an electronic format", but "the Department has not been able to access the necessary software for this purpose". [1] Further, the SPH noted the MOH's "Weak information system" and set a goal of "Quality of information available improved by 2013". [2] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's healthcare system noted that the health information system was "predominantly paper-based system at the primary health care level", meaning that electronic reporting had not yet reached the sub-national level. Further, the assessment noted "Strong reporting and intersectoral review of notifiable conditions exists in spite of manually driven reporting systems" and "Delayed data consolidation and dissemination limits the effectiveness of data-driven policymaking". [3] The assessment recommended taking advantage of widespread adoption of mobile phones in the country to use them as tools to electronically report epidemiological surveillance data. [3] In 2014, the MOH reported that the "first phase" of the "Dominica Medical Information System" had been implemented. Based on public information, the system appeared to be aimed more at patient data than epidemiological data. [4] The Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) 2017 profile of Dominica's healthcare system stated that the MOH was "moving towards an integrated electronic information system" that would link all 52 primary healthcare centers. The profile did not state whether or not the system would include epidemiological surveillance data. [5] The government's National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 includes a goal to "Pursue the digitization of health data and encourage data sharing". [6] In 2019, the government reported that the MOH had worked to "strengthen the National Disease Surveillance System" via "Acquisition of applicable software and training of staff in influenza surveillance", but the report did not state if the system reached the sub-national level. [7] According to the 2020 Implementation Status & Results Report for the World Bank's "OECS Regional Health Project", in which Dominica is a participant, the country's baseline JEE score for Question D.2.2. on "Use of electronic tools for surveillance" was 3 as of November 2019. The score of 3 corresponds to "developed capacity (integrated electronic real-time reporting system for public health surveillance in place at all levels of health system, but system is not able to share data in real time)". [8] The project's goals for 2024 include strengthening "Health Information System (HIS) for national data collection" and "development of an information and communication platform for surveillance and management". [9] In a February 2020 visit, PAHO and the MOH discussed joint work for "Strengthening information systems for health". [10] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [11] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [12]

[1] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health - Volume 2".

[[http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/index.php?option=com\\_phocadownload&view=category&download=29:strategic-health-plan-volume-2&id=14:publications&Itemid=234](http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/index.php?option=com_phocadownload&view=category&download=29:strategic-health-plan-volume-2&id=14:publications&Itemid=234)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Government Information Service. 2014. "First Phase of Dominica Medical Information System Underway".

[<http://news.gov.dm/index.php/news/2090-first-phase-of-dominica-medical-information-system-underway>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[5] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2017. "Health in the Americas - Dominica". [<https://www.paho.org/salud-en-las-americas-2017/?p=3988>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. "National Resilience Development Strategy 2030".

[[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019".

[<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.



- [8] World Bank. 2020. "Implementation Status & Results Report OECS Regional Health Project (P168539)". [<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/999021606245961476/pdf/Disclosable-Version-of-the-ISR-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-P168539-Sequence-No-03.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [9] Organization of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "OECS Regional Health Project". [<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [10] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2020. "Dominica accelerates Country Preparedness and Response to the 2019-nCoronavirus Outbreak". [[https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=718:dominica-accelerates-country-preparedness-and-response-for-the-2019-ncoronavirus-outbreak&Itemid=332](https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=718:dominica-accelerates-country-preparedness-and-response-for-the-2019-ncoronavirus-outbreak&Itemid=332)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [11] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [12] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 2.3.2b

#### Does the electronic reporting surveillance system collect ongoing or real-time laboratory data?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica operates an electronic reporting surveillance system that collects ongoing or real-time laboratory data. There are reports over the past decade of the government's efforts to introduce electronic health information systems, including electronic reporting of surveillance data, but there is a lack of definitive public evidence that such a system has been implemented or that it includes laboratory data. The Ministry of Health's (MOH) 2010 Strategic Plan for Health (SPH) outlined a plan to strengthen the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH) Information System. The national laboratory is located at the PMH. Phase 2 of the plan included "Upgrade of Laboratory Information System", but no further public evidence is available as to whether the upgrades were completed or what they consisted of. [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's healthcare system noted that the health information system faced "delayed data consolidation and dissemination [that] limits the effectiveness of data-driven policymaking". [2] In 2014, the MOH reported that the "first phase" of the "Dominica Medical Information System" had been implemented. Based on public information, the system appeared to be aimed more at patient data than epidemiological data. [3] The Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) 2017 profile of Dominica's healthcare system stated that the MOH was "moving towards an integrated electronic information system" that would link all 52 primary healthcare centers. The profile did not state whether or not the system would include laboratory data. [4] The government's National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 includes a goal to "Pursue the digitization of health data and encourage data sharing". [5] According to the 2020 Implementation Status & Results Report for the World Bank's "OECS Regional Health Project", in which Dominica is a participant, the country's baseline JEE score for Question D.2.2. on "Use of electronic tools for surveillance" was 3 as of November 2019. The score of 3 corresponds to "developed capacity (integrated electronic real-time reporting system for public health surveillance in place at all levels of health system, but system is not able to share data in real time)". [6] In a February 2020 visit, PAHO and the MOH discussed joint work for "Strengthening information systems for health". [7] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [9]

- [1] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health". [[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector

- Assessment”. [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Government Information Service. 2014. “First Phase of Dominica Medical Information System Underway”. [<http://news.gov.dm/index.php/news/2090-first-phase-of-dominica-medical-information-system-underway>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [4] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2017. “Health in the Americas – Dominica”. [<https://www.paho.org/salud-en-las-americas-2017/?p=3988>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. “National Resilience Development Strategy 2030”. [[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] World Bank. 2020. “Implementation Status & Results Report OECS Regional Health Project (P168539)”. [<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/999021606245961476/pdf/Disclosable-Version-of-the-ISR-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-P168539-Sequence-No-03.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [7] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2020. “Dominica accelerates Country Preparedness and Response to the 2019-nCoronavirus Outbreak”. [[https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=718:dominica-accelerates-country-preparedness-and-response-for-the-2019-ncoronavirus-outbreak&Itemid=332](https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=718:dominica-accelerates-country-preparedness-and-response-for-the-2019-ncoronavirus-outbreak&Itemid=332)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.4 SURVEILLANCE DATA ACCESSIBILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

### 2.4.1 Coverage and use of electronic health records

#### 2.4.1a

##### Are electronic health records commonly in use?

Electronic health records are commonly in use = 2, Electronic health records are not commonly in use, but there is evidence they are used = 1, No evidence electronic health records are in use = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is insufficient public evidence that electronic health records (EHR) are commonly in use in the Commonwealth of Dominica, but there is evidence they are used. Dominica implemented its first EHR system in 2006 as a pilot at the Princess Margaret Hospital (PMH). [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica’s healthcare system noted that PMH was still using “an antiquated paper-based patient record system”. [1] By 2014, the Ministry of Health (MOH) reported that the “first phase” of the “Dominica Medical Information System” had been implemented. Health professionals were “entering patients’ information into the electronic record for patients accessing the emergency room at PMH or the Grand Bay Health Centre, which will then become available to those with the required permission in government health facilities across the country”. [2] In 2019, the government reported that the Dominica Medical Information System (DMedIS) was being upgraded to meet international standards and that the system was “currently operational in the Accident and Emergency, Medical Record, and X-ray departments, and the Grand Bay Health Centre”. There is no public evidence regarding the percentage of the population covered by EHR, but the facilities covered only include two of more than 50 facilities in the country. [3] The government’s National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 includes a goal to “Pursue the digitization of health data and encourage data sharing”. [4] In a February 2020 visit, PAHO and the MOH discussed joint work for “Strengthening information systems for health”. [5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was

under construction as of January 2021. [6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [7]

- [1] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. “Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment”. [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] Government Information Service. 2014. “First Phase of Dominica Medical Information System Underway”. [<http://news.gov.dm/index.php/news/2090-first-phase-of-dominica-medical-information-system-underway>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. “Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019”. [<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. “National Resilience Development Strategy 2030”. [[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2020. “Dominica accelerates Country Preparedness and Response to the 2019-nCoronavirus Outbreak”. [[https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=718:dominica-accelerates-country-preparedness-and-response-for-the-2019-ncoronavirus-outbreak&Itemid=332](https://www.paho.org/ecc/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=718:dominica-accelerates-country-preparedness-and-response-for-the-2019-ncoronavirus-outbreak&Itemid=332)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 2.4.1b

**Does the national public health system have access to electronic health records of individuals in their country?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica’s national public health system has access to electronic health records (EHR) of individuals in the country. EHR are not commonly in use, but there is evidence they are used. In 2014, the Ministry of Health (MOH) reported that the “first phase” of the “Dominica Medical Information System” had been implemented. Public-sector health professionals were “entering patients’ information into the electronic record for patients accessing the emergency room at PMH or the Grand Bay Health Centre, which will then become available to those with the required permission in government health facilities across the country”. [1] As the EHR system has been implemented by the public sector, the national public health system has access to the records. [1, 2] In 2019, the government reported that the Dominica Medical Information System (DMedIS) was being upgraded to meet international standards and that the system was “currently operational in the Accident and Emergency, Medical Record, and X-ray departments, and the Grand Bay Health Centre”. [2] The government’s National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 includes a goal to “Pursue the digitization of health data and encourage data sharing”. [3]

- [1] Government Information Service. 2014. “First Phase of Dominica Medical Information System Underway”. [<http://news.gov.dm/index.php/news/2090-first-phase-of-dominica-medical-information-system-underway>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. “Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019”. [<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. "National Resilience Development Strategy 2030". [[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 2.4.1c

**Are there data standards to ensure data is comparable (e.g., ISO standards)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica's electronic health records (EHR) system uses data standards to ensure data is comparable (e.g., ISO standards). In 2019, the government reported that the Dominica Medical Information System (DMedIS) was being upgraded to meet international standards. [1] The report did not state which standards were being implemented or which data standards were being used. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding EHR data standards. [3] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [4]

[1] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019".

[<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.4.2 Data integration between human, animal, and environmental health sectors

### 2.4.2a

**Is there evidence of established mechanisms at the relevant ministries responsible for animal, human, and wildlife surveillance to share data (e.g., through mosquito surveillance, brucellosis surveillance)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has established mechanisms at the relevant ministries responsible for animal, human, and wildlife surveillance to share data (e.g., through mosquito surveillance, brucellosis surveillance). The Division of Agriculture's Livestock Development & Veterinary Unit (subsidiary to the Ministry of Agriculture) carries out "Disease Monitoring Surveillance and Control", but there is no public evidence regarding sharing of surveillance data. [1] The websites of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) and the Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernization and Kalinago Upliftment were under construction as of January 2021. [2, 3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding established mechanisms at the relevant ministries responsible for animal, human, and wildlife surveillance to share data. [4, 5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute.

[6]

[1] Division of Agriculture. 2021. "Livestock Development and Veterinary Unit".

[<http://divisionofagriculture.gov.dm/units/livestock-development-veterinary-unit>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernization and Kalinago Upliftment. 2021. "Website Development Notice".

[<http://environment.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.4.3 Transparency of surveillance data

### 2.4.3a

**Does the country make de-identified health surveillance data on infectious diseases publicly available via reports (or other format) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, or similar)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica makes de-identified health surveillance data on disease outbreaks publicly available via reports (or other format) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, or similar). According to the government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health, "A comprehensive set of data collection instruments has been developed over the years; several monthly, quarterly and annual reports are generated but not widely disseminated". [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's healthcare system noted that "Strong reporting and intersectoral review of notifiable conditions exists in spite of manually driven reporting systems" but did not state that reports were publicly available. [2] A 2015 Rapid Damage and Impact Assessment following a tropical storm noted that "surveillance reports indicate that cases of gastroenteritis were rapidly rising". [3] However, government websites do not contain publicly available copies of surveillance reports. [4] The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) issued public epidemiological reports for Dominica during the Zika virus outbreak in 2018. [5] PAHO has also issued COVID-19 situation updates for the Eastern Caribbean Countries that include data from Dominica. [6] The World Health Organization's (WHO) 2020 Health and Climate Change Country Profile for Dominica recommended that the "Dominica State College and other national, regional and international educational institutions and technical support agencies should develop capacity in areas such as surveillance and reporting of climate-sensitive health conditions; [and] computerization and dissemination of surveillance, monitoring and evaluation data". [7] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [8] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding de-identified health surveillance data on disease outbreaks. [9, 10] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [4]

[1] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

- [2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2015. "Rapid Damage and Impact Assessment Tropical Storm Erika". [<https://info.undp.org/docs/pdc/Documents/BRB/Commonwealth%20of%20Dominica%20-%20Rapid%20Damage%20and%20Needs%20Assessment%20Final%20Report%20-Oct5.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [5] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2018. "Zika Epidemiological Report – Dominica". [<https://www.paho.org/en/documents/zika-epidemiological-report-dominica-2>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [6] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2021. "ECC COVID-19 Situation Update 115 - 22 January 2021". [<https://www.paho.org/en/documents/ecc-covid-19-situation-update-115-22-january-2021>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [7] World Health Organization (WHO). 2020. "Health and Climate Change Country Profile – Dominica". [<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/336271/WHO-HEP-ECH-CCH-20.01.04-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [8] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [10] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 2.4.3b

**Does the country make de-identified COVID-19 surveillance data (including details such as daily case count, mortality rate, etc) available via daily reports (or other formats) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, or similar)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica makes de-identified health surveillance data on COVID-19 publicly available via daily reports (or other format) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, or similar). The government's "Updates" page on the "Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment Response to COVID-19" is updated with new information two or three times per week, but not daily. [1] The Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has also issued COVID-19 situation updates for the Eastern Caribbean Countries that include data from Dominica. These updates are provided at least weekly and at times more frequently. [2, 3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding de-identified health surveillance data on COVID-19. [5, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [7]

- [1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Updates". [<http://dominica.gov.dm/updates>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [2] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2021. "ECC COVID-19 Situation Updates". [<https://www.paho.org/en/ecc-covid-19-situation-updates>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [3] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2021. "ECC COVID-19 Situation Update 115 - 22 January 2021". [<https://www.paho.org/en/documents/ecc-covid-19-situation-update-115-22-january-2021>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.4.4 Ethical considerations during surveillance

### 2.4.4a

**Is there legislation and/or regulations that safeguard the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, such as that generated through health surveillance activities?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has legislation and/or regulations that safeguard the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, such as that generated through health surveillance activities. The Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations of 2003 cover mandatory reporting of diseases but do not mention safeguarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals.

[1] The Quarantine Act of 1951 (last modified in 1974) does not contain provisions for safeguarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals. [2] The Census and Statistics Act of 1986 protects the confidentiality of business information and "the affairs of an individual household or person" collected under the act (Section 12). The act does not specifically mention health surveillance activities. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional public information regarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, such as that generated through health surveillance activities. [5, 6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [7]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. "Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1974. "Quarantine Act". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Quarantine\\_Act.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Quarantine_Act.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1986. "Census and Statistics Act of 1986". [<https://stats.gov.dm/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CENSUS-AND-STATISTICS-ACT.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 2.4.4b

**Is there legislation and/or regulations safeguarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, such as that generated through health surveillance activities, include mention of protections from cyber attacks (e.g., ransomware)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has legislation and/or regulations safeguarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, such as that generated through health surveillance activities, include mention of protections from cyber attacks (e.g., ransomware). In 2014, the Minister for Information Technology announced that the government was “developing a cyber security strategy” and “will be seeking accession to the Budapest convention on cybercrime”. [1] In addition, in 2014, the government hosted a workshop focused on “forensics, strategy development and establishment of a National Computer Incident Response Team (CIRT)”. [2] However there is no public evidence of a focus on protecting the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, or subsequent progress on the implementation of these initiatives. [1, 2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding the confidentiality of identifiable health information for individuals, such as that generated through health surveillance activities. [4] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [5]

[1] Government Information Service. 2014. “Dominica Takes Steps To Fight Cybercrime”. [<http://news.gov.dm/news/1976-dominica-takes-steps-to-fight-cybercrime>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Government Information Service. 2014. “Dominica Works To Improve Cyber Crime Resilience with Support of International Partners”. [<http://www.news.gov.dm/news/1647-dominica-works-to-improve-cyber-crime-resilience-with-support-of-international-partners>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.4.5 International data sharing

### 2.4.5a

**Has the government made a commitment via public statements, legislation and/or a cooperative agreement to share surveillance data during a public health emergency with other countries in the region?**

Yes, commitments have been made to share data for more than one disease, Yes, commitments have been made to share data only for one disease = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient evidence that the government of the Commonwealth of Dominica has made public commitments to share surveillance data for more than one disease during a public health emergency with other countries in the region.

In 2017, the health ministers of the OECS member states issued the Fort de France Declaration on Health. [1] The Declaration commits Dominica to “Jointly prepare for and respond to health emergencies” and to “Collect and share the relevant



information to drive the strategic direction of health including quality and outcome indicators”. [1] In addition, a goal of OECS’ Health Unit is to support member states to implement “Health Surveillance for appropriate and timely response” and cooperation in “Health Emergency Response”. [2] In 2019, the OECS began implementation of a World Bank-financed Regional Health Project that includes Dominica. The project’s top expected impacts include “Rapid detection and response of priority infectious diseases” and “Coordinated public health emergency management”. [3] Dominica is also a member of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), which houses the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA). CARPHA monitors and investigates communicable diseases in the region via its reference laboratory as well as reports of epidemiological information from member countries. [4] CARPHA’s COVID-19 situation reports published every 2-3 days include surveillance data from Dominica. [5, 6] However, neither of these agreements include explicit commitment to share surveillance data during public health emergencies.

[1] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). 2017. “Fort de France Declaration on Health”.

[<https://pressroom.oecs.org/fort-de-france-declaration-on-health-a-commitment-to-regional-solidarity-in-the-oecs#>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). 2021. “About the OECS Health Unit”.

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/about-health-forum#accessible-information-for-strategic-governance-of-health-systems>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. “OECS Regional Health Project”.

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Caribbean Public Health Agency. 2021. “Communicable diseases”. <https://www.carpha.org/What-We-Do/Communicable-Diseases>. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[5] Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA). 2021. “CARPHA Situation Reports”. [<https://www.carpha.org/What-We-Do/Public-Health/Novel-Coronavirus/CARPHA-Situation-Reports-for-COVID-19>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA). 2021. “Situation Report 126 - January 25, 2021”.

[<https://www.carpha.org/Portals/0/Documents/COVID%20Situation%20Reports/Situation%20Report%20126%20-%20January%2025,%202021.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.5 CASE-BASED INVESTIGATION

### 2.5.1 Case investigation and contact tracing

#### 2.5.1a

**Is there a national system in place to provide support at the sub-national level (e.g. training, metrics standardization and/or financial resources) to conduct contact tracing in the event of a public health emergency?**

Yes, there is evidence that the national government supports sub-national systems to prepare for future public health emergencies = 2, Yes, there is evidence that the national government supports sub-national systems, but only in response to active public health emergencies = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national system in place to provide support at the sub-national level (e.g. training, metrics standardization and/or financial resources) to conduct contact tracing but only in response to active public health emergencies.

Although there are reports that contact tracing has occurred and been successfully implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic in Dominica, there is limited public evidence regarding the structure or operations of the contact tracing program. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has recognized the success of contact tracing

“to stop the chain of transmission by using it to track all new cases and limit the spread of the virus in Dominica”. [3] A national press report mentioned Dominica’s “National Contact Tracing and Sampling Committee”, but there is no public information regarding this committee. [4, 5] In practice, Dominica has employed community health workers trained in 2019 to improve primary care in the country to assist with sub-national contact tracing efforts. According to PAHO, the effort has been successful. [6] The Quarantine Act of 1951 (last modified in 1974) does not contain provisions for contact tracing. [1] The government’s 2010 Strategic Plan for Health noted the need to strengthen “elements of public health preparedness”, including “surveillance” and a lack of legal powers regarding testing. [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [7] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding contact tracing. [8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [5]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1974. “Quarantine Act”.

[[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Quarantine\\_Act.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Quarantine_Act.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health. 2010. “Strategic Plan for Health”.

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2020. “PAHO asks countries to reinforce contact tracing and data systems as the region starts to reopen”. [<https://www.paho.org/en/news/25-8-2020-paho-asks-countries-reinforce-contact-tracing-and-data-systems-region-starts-reopen>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] The Chronicle. 2020. “Dominica COVID cases now 14”. [<https://thedomincachronicle.com/dominica-covid-19-cases-now-14/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[5] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2020. “UHC Partnership COVID-19 Stories from the field Dominica”.

[<https://www.paho.org/en/stories/uhc-partnership-covid-19-stories-field-dominica>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 2.5.1b

**Does the country provide wraparound services to enable infected people and their contacts to self-isolate or quarantine as recommended, particularly economic support (paycheck, job security) and medical attention?**

Yes, both economic support and medical attention are provided = 2, Yes, but only economic support or medical attention is provided = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica provides wraparound services to enable infected people and their contacts to self-isolate or quarantine as recommended, particularly economic support (paycheck, job security) and medical attention. The Quarantine Act of 1951 (last modified in 1974) does not contain provisions for support for self-isolation. [1] The government’s 2010 Strategic Plan for Health noted the need to strengthen “elements of public health preparedness”, including “protection of persons in a public health emergency” and a lack of legal powers regarding quarantine. [2] During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dominica has provided livelihood support payments to individuals affected by income loss, but publicly available information does not specifically mention economic support for self-isolation. [3, 4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding wraparound

services to enable infected people and their contacts to self-isolate or quarantine as recommended. [6] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [7]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 1974. "Quarantine Act".

[[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Quarantine\\_Act.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Quarantine_Act.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). 2020. "World Bank Financing to Support Over 7,000 People in Dominica During COVID-19 Pandemic". [<https://pressroom.oecs.org/world-bank-financing-to-support-over-7000-people-in-dominica-during-covid-19-pandemic#>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "COVID-19 Response: Re-Submission of Livelihood Grant Assistance".

[<https://dominica.gov.dm/notices/1128-covid-19-response-re-submission-of-livelihood-grant-assistance>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 2.5.1c

**Does the country make de-identified data on contact tracing efforts for COVID-19 (including the percentage of new cases from identified contacts) available via daily reports (or other format) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, or similar)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica makes de-identified data on contact tracing efforts for COVID-19 (including the percentage of new cases from identified contacts) available via daily reports (or other format) on government websites (such as the Ministry of Health, or similar). Dominica's COVID-19 reports provide some information related to contact tracing, but they are not published daily. The government's "Updates" page on the "Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment Response to COVID-19" is updated with new information two or three times per week.

[1] The COVID-19 case information includes active cases, deaths, recoveries, total confirmed cases, number of contacts under investigation, number in quarantine, number of contacts identified, number of contacts cleared, total number of persons tested, and number of negative results. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding de-identified data on contact tracing efforts for COVID-19. [3] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [4]

[1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Updates". [<http://dominica.gov.dm/updates>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 2.5.2 Point of entry management

### 2.5.2a

**Is there a joint plan or cooperative agreement between the public health system and border control authorities to identify suspected and potential cases in international travelers and trace and quarantine their contacts in the event of a public health emergency?**

Yes, plan(s)/agreement(s) are in place to prepare for future public health emergencies = 2, Yes, but plan(s)/agreement(s) are in place only in response to active public health emergencies = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is evidence that Dominica has a joint plan or cooperative agreement between the public health system and border control authorities to identify suspected and potential cases in international travelers and trace and quarantine their contacts in the event of an active public health emergency, but only in response to an ongoing emergency.

A planning document or agreement is not publicly available; the Ministry of Health's (MOH) response to diseases and potential outbreaks since at least 2014 has demonstrated public health authorities activities at ports of entry, but there is no public evidence of coordination with border control authorities. In 2014, in response to the Ebola virus outbreak in Africa, MOH reported that measures were taken to "strengthen the surveillance system already in place under the International Health Regulations. This includes providing relevant information to travellers, increasing medical staff at ports of entry, mobilizing appropriate protective gear, making arrangements for quarantine of persons who are suspect". [1] Also in 2014, MOH reported that it would "undertake intense surveillance at the island's ports of entry" in response to the first case of Chikungunya on the island. [2] In 2016, in response to the risk from Zika virus, MOH reported that "At ports of entry, we have stationed Port Health Officers. They will receive the necessary documentation which will indicate travelers' health and whether they have visited affected countries recently". [3] In 2020, in response to reopening during the COVID-19 pandemic, MOH stated that, "Protocols have been formulated and implemented at all ports of entry for low, medium and high risk travelers, and as a precaution all persons entering Dominica should have a negative PCR test from a nationally approved or state regulated lab." [4] The protocols require testing, quarantine, and contact tracing according to risk. [5] Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 100% for indicator "C11.1 Core capacity requirements at all times for designated airports, ports and ground crossings" and 80% for indicator "C11.2 Effective public health response at points of entry". [6] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [7] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations, Immigration Division, and Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives do not contain additional information regarding a joint plan or cooperative agreement between the public health system and border control authorities to identify suspected and potential cases in international travelers and trace and quarantine their contacts in the event of a public health emergency. [8, 9, 10, 11]

[1] Health Promotion Unit. 2014. "Public Statement Ebola virus outbreak".

[[http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=28:public-statement-ebola-virus-outbreak-in-west-africa&catid=9&Itemid=103](http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=28:public-statement-ebola-virus-outbreak-in-west-africa&catid=9&Itemid=103)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Government Information Service. 2014. "Health officials confirm one case of Chikungunya disease on Dominica".

[<http://news.gov.dm/news/1276-health-officials-confirm-one-case-of-chikungunya-disease-on-dominica>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

- [3] Government Information Service. 2014. "Zika Threat Increased with Carnival Season". [http://news.gov.dm/index.php/news/3329-zika-threat-increased-with-carnival-season]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [4] Government Information Service. 2014. "DOMINICA OPENS ITS BORDERS FOR NON-NATIONALS". [http://news.gov.dm/news/4998-dominica-opens-its-borders-for-non-nationals]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [5] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2020. "Travel Protocols". [https://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/Travelprotocols\_Portrait\_rv8\_Nov8.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [6] World Health Organization. 2018. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [9] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations. 2021. "Contact". [https://dominica.gov.dm/ministries/foreign-affairs-international-business-and-diaspora-relations]. Accessed 31 January 2021.
- [10] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Immigration Division". [http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/divisions/immigration-division]. Accessed 31 January 2021.
- [11] Ministry of Tourism, International Transport and Maritime Initiatives. 2021. "Home". [http://tourism.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 2.6 EPIDEMIOLOGY WORKFORCE

### 2.6.1 Applied epidemiology training program, such as the field epidemiology training program, for public health professionals and veterinarians (e.g., Field Epidemiology Training Program [FETP] and Field Epidemiology Training Program for Veterinarians [FETPV])

#### 2.6.1a

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Applied epidemiology training program (such as FETP) is available in country
- Resources are provided by the government to send citizens to another country to participate in applied epidemiology training programs (such as FETP)

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure. , Yes for both = 1 , Yes for one = 1 , No for both = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica sends citizens to another country to participate in applied epidemiology training programs, but there is no public evidence that applied epidemiology training is available in country. Dominica sends citizens to participate in the Caribbean Regional Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program (CR-FELTP) of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) with other Caribbean countries. CR-FELTP has graduated 236 professionals since 2014. [1, 2] CR-FELTP is divided into three phases: Phase I is a five-month program with "basic training in applied epidemiology, public health laboratory science, and communications". Phase II covers the previous topics at an intermediate level and adds teaching and training components, and Phase III is a two-year fellowship program. [2] In November 2019, Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET) participated in a workshop to update the curriculum for the advanced track of CR-FELTP. [3] In 2019, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) began implementation of a World Bank-financed Regional Health Project that includes Dominica. The project's activities include continuing to work on the curriculum for the CR-FELTP as well as funding a new round of training for the

basic track of the course in the country. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5]

[1] Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET). 2021. “Caribbean Regional Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program”. [<https://www.tephinet.org/training-programs/caribbean-regional-field-epidemiology-and-laboratory-training-program>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Caribbean Public Health Agency. 2021. “WHAT IS FELTP?”. [<http://carpha.org/What-We-Do/FELTP/Introduction>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET). 2020. “TEPHINET Helps Develop the Curriculum for a New, Advanced Caribbean Regional Field Epidemiology Training Program”. [<https://www.tephinet.org/tephinet-helps-develop-the-curriculum-for-a-new-advanced-caribbean-regional-field-epidemiology>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. “OECS Regional Health Project”.

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 2.6.1b

**Are the available field epidemiology training programs explicitly inclusive of animal health professionals or is there a specific animal health field epidemiology training program offered (such as FETPV)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

In the Commonwealth of Dominica, there is no public evidence that the Caribbean Regional Field Epidemiology Training Program (CR-FELTP) is explicitly inclusive of animal health professionals or that there is a specific animal health field epidemiology training program offered. Dominica sends its citizens to participate in the CR-FELTP in coordination with the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA). The description of CR-FELTP states that it is “designed for health professionals from diverse backgrounds” but is not explicitly inclusive of animal health professionals. There is no public evidence of animal health professionals entering or graduating from the program. [1, 2] The CaribVET Caribbean animal health network managed the Veterinary Epidemiologist/Para-Epidemiologist Project from 2008 to 2012 with funding from the United States Department of Agriculture. The project focused on “strengthening veterinary infrastructure in the Caribbean basin. The project focuses on enabling risk-based, epidemiologically-sound surveillance for priority animal diseases in the Caribbean” via “training and professional development of veterinary epidemiologists or para-epidemiologists”. However, the program does not specifically mention field or applied epidemiology. The project lists Dominica among the countries included. [3, 4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, and Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET) do not contain additional information regarding an animal health field epidemiology training program. [6, 7, 8]

[1] Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET). 2021. “Caribbean Regional Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program”. [<https://www.tephinet.org/training-programs/caribbean-regional-field-epidemiology-and-laboratory-training-program>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Caribbean Public Health Agency. 2021. “WHAT IS FELTP?”. [<http://carpha.org/What-We-Do/FELTP/Introduction>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] CaribVET Caribbean animal health network. 2012. “Veterinary Epidemiologist/Para-Epidemiologist Project”. [<https://www.caribvet.net/projects/vep>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

- [4] Delgado, A., Faverjon, C., Lefrançois, T., Shaw, J., Gongora, V., Hackshaw, K., & Pradel, J. 2012. “Building capacities in Caribbean animal health in the : The VEP (Veterinary Epidemiologist / Para-Epidemiologist) Project”. [[http://agritrop.cirad.fr/565844/2/document\\_565844.pdf](http://agritrop.cirad.fr/565844/2/document_565844.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] Training Programs in Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions Network (TEPHINET). 2021. “Work”. [<https://www.tephinet.org/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [8] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 2.6.2 Epidemiology workforce capacity

### 2.6.2a

Is there public evidence that the country has at least 1 trained field epidemiologist per 200,000 people?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2020

Completed JEE assessments; Economist Impact analyst qualitative assessment based on official national sources, which vary by country

## Category 3: Rapid response to and mitigation of the spread of an epidemic

### 3.1 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLANNING

#### 3.1.1 National public health emergency preparedness and response plan

##### 3.1.1a

Does the country have an overarching national public health emergency response plan in place which addresses planning for multiple communicable diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential?

Evidence that there is a plan in place, and the plan is publicly available = 2, Evidence that the plan is in place, but the plan is not publicly available OR, Disease-specific plans are in place, but there is no evidence of an overarching plan = 1, No evidence that such a plan or plans are in place = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has an overarching national public health emergency response plan in place which addresses planning for multiple communicable diseases with epidemic or pandemic potential. Different plans have been discussed in reports, but there is no evidence of a publicly available overarching national public health emergency response plan. The government’s 2010 Strategic Plan for Health noted that “a health sector disaster plan

must be developed” and “the Draft Avian Flu Plan should be finalized”. [1] The Avian Flu Plan (draft or final) is not publicly available. [2] A 2012 assessment of Dominica’s healthcare system noted the need for “new laws governing public health emergencies” that would “outline the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in responding to public health emergencies”. [2] The World Health Organization’s (WHO) 2018-2024 Country Cooperation Strategic Agenda includes an objective to “5.2 Strengthen capacity to address health emergencies and environmental threats and risks”. [3] Dominica’s 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator “C8.1 Planning for emergency preparedness and response mechanism” and 40% for indicator “C6.2 Mechanism for event management (verification, risk assessment, analysis, investigation)”. [4] According to the 2020 Implementation Status & Results Report for the World Bank’s “OECS Regional Health Project”, in which Dominica is a participant, the country’s baseline JEE score for Question R.2.2. on emergency response was 1 as of November 2019. The score of 1 corresponds to “no capacity (no EOC structure or plans/procedures in place)”. Dominica’s baseline JEE score for Question R.1.2. on “Multi-sectoral, multi-hazard emergency preparedness measures” was 1 as of November 2019. The score of 1 corresponds to “no capacity (no national multi-sectoral, multi-hazard emergency preparedness plan in place)”. [5] The OECS Regional Health Project’s outcomes include “Coordinated regional and national preparedness and response action plans for priority infectious disease”. [6] The country’s 2001 National Disaster Plan includes “epidemic outbreak” on its hazard list, but does not include any preparedness or response measures related to the hazard. [7] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [8] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding an overarching national public health emergency response plan. [9, 10]

[1] Ministry of Health. 2010. “Strategic Plan for Health”.

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. “Government of Dominica Web Portal”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] World Health Organization. 2018. “Country Cooperation Strategy Brief – Dominica”.

[<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/272542/ccsbrief-dma-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] World Health Organization. 2019. “IHR Score per capacity - Dominica”. [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] World Bank. 2019. “Report No: PAD3148”.

[<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/164171567389660796/pdf/Organization-of-Eastern-Caribbean-States-OECS-Regional-Health-Project.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. “OECS Regional Health Project”.

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[7] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. “The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001.”

[[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. “Home”. [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 3.1.1b

If an overarching plan is in place, has it been updated in the last 3 years?



Yes = 1 , No /no plan in place= 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has an overarching national public health emergency response plan in place that has been updated in the last 3 years. Different plans have been discussed in reports, but there is no evidence of a publicly available overarching national public health emergency response plan. The government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health noted that "a health sector disaster plan must be developed" and "the Draft Avian Flu Plan should be finalized". [1] The Avian Flu Plan (draft or final) is not publicly available. [2] According to the 2020 Implementation Status & Results Report for the World Bank's "OECS Regional Health Project", in which Dominica is a participant, the country's baseline JEE score for Question R.2.2. on emergency response was 1 as of November 2019. The score of 1 corresponds to "no capacity (no EOC structure or plans/procedures in place)". Dominica's baseline JEE score for Question R.1.2. on "Multi-sectoral, multi-hazard emergency preparedness measures" was 1 as of November 2019. The score of 1 corresponds to "no capacity (no national multi-sectoral, multi-hazard emergency preparedness plan in place)". [3] The OECS Regional Health Project's outcomes include "Coordinated regional and national preparedness and response action plans for priority infectious disease". [4] The country's 2001 National Disaster Plan includes "epidemic outbreak" on its hazard list, but does not include any preparedness or response measures related to the hazard. An updated version of the plan is not publicly available. [5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding an overarching national public health emergency response plan updated in the last 3 years. [7, 8]

[1] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] World Bank. 2020. "Implementation Status & Results Report OECS Regional Health Project (P168539)".

[<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/999021606245961476/pdf/Disclosable-Version-of-the-ISR-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-P168539-Sequence-No-03.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "OECS Regional Health Project".

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[5] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001."

[[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 3.1.1c

**If an overarching plan is in place, does it include considerations for pediatric and/or other vulnerable populations?**

Yes = 1 , No /no plan in place= 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has an overarching national public health emergency response plan that includes considerations for pediatric and/or other vulnerable populations. The government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health noted that "a health sector disaster plan must be developed" and "the Draft Avian Flu Plan should be finalized". [1] The Avian Flu Plan (draft or final) is not publicly available. [2] The country's 2001 National Disaster Plan includes "epidemic outbreak" on its hazard list but does not include any preparedness or response measures related to the hazard. The plan does mention vulnerable populations in its risk assessment, including the elderly, disabled, sick, hospitalized, children, and others. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding an overarching national public health emergency response plan that includes considerations for vulnerable populations. [5, 6]

[1] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\_cycle\_repository/dominica/strategic\_plan\_for\_health\_volume\_i\_final\_version.pdf\_new\_1.pdf]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [https://dominica.gov.dm/]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001."

[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\_disaster\_plan.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [http://odm.gov.dm/]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 3.1.1d

**Does the country have a publicly available plan in place specifically for pandemic influenza preparedness that has been updated since 2009?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

2020

WHO Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH)

## 3.1.2 Private sector involvement in response planning

### 3.1.2a

**Does the country have a specific mechanism(s) for engaging with the private sector to assist with outbreak emergency preparedness and response?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a specific mechanism(s) for engaging with the private sector to assist with outbreak emergency preparedness and response. The government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health (SPH)

noted that the National Emergency Planning Organisation (NEPO) coordinates a Health Sub-Committee, which the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health chairs. The Sub-Committee includes public and private members, such as “representatives from the Dominica Red Cross, Fire & Ambulance, Medical Association, Nursing Association, and other health professionals from the Ministry of Health”. [1] The SPH does not contain information regarding how the sub-committee functions or its responsibilities in outbreak emergency preparedness and response. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding specific mechanism(s) for engaging with the private sector to assist with outbreak emergency preparedness and response. [3, 4]

[1] Ministry of Health. 2010. “Strategic Plan for Health”.

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. “Home”. [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 3.1.3 Non-pharmaceutical interventions planning

#### 3.1.3a

**Does the country have a policy, plan and/or guidelines in place to implement non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) during an epidemic or pandemic?**

Yes, a policy, plan and/or guidelines are in place for more than one disease = 2, Yes, but the policy, plan and/or guidelines exist only for one disease = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is some public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a policy, plan and/or guidelines in place to implement non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) during an epidemic or pandemic, which only covers one disease. The country’s 2001 National Disaster Plan includes “epidemic outbreak” on its hazard list but does not include any preparedness or response measures related to the hazard, nor does it mention NPIs. [1] During the COVID-19 pandemic, the government has issued NPIs, including handwashing, wearing a mask, and physical distancing. The government’s guidelines rely on World Health Organization (WHO) guidance, which is included on the webpage describing them. [2, 3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a policy, plan and/or guidelines in place to implement non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs) during an epidemic or pandemic. [5, 6]

[1] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. “The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001.” [[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment Response to COVID-19”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/corona>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Wear a Mask to Protect Against Coronavirus”. [<https://dominica.gov.dm/wear-a-mask-to-protect-against-coronavirus>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 3.2 EXERCISING RESPONSE PLANS

### 3.2.1 Activating response plans

#### 3.2.1a

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Is there evidence that the country has activated their national emergency response plan for an infectious disease outbreak in the past year?

- Is there evidence that the country has completed a national-level biological threat-focused exercise (either with WHO or separately) in the past year?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure. , Yes for both = 1 , Yes for one = 1 , No for both = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has activated its national emergency response plan for an infectious disease outbreak in the past year, and there is no public evidence that Dominica has completed a national-level biological threat-focused exercise (either with WHO or separately) in the past year. In terms of the COVID-19 pandemic, the President's April 2020 statement regarding the pandemic states that the "Honourable Minister and the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investments, and all relevant government services, have been working tirelessly for months to prevent, and if not limit, the spread of this deadly contagion on the island", and that "acting in accordance with the provisions of Section 17 (3) of the Constitution and Section 5 of the Emergency Powers (Disaster) Act, Chapter 15:03, I issued a Proclamation declaring a State of Emergency". [1, 2] The Press/Notices section of the Office of Disaster Management's website contains news referencing preparedness activities for natural disasters but does not mention the activation of the national emergency response plan for the COVID-19 pandemic. [3] The government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health (SPH), stated that "Regular simulation exercises should be held to test disaster plans", but there is no public evidence that this has occurred. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding the activation of the national emergency response plan for an infectious disease outbreak or the completion of a national-level biological threat-focused exercise (either with WHO or separately) in the past year. [6, 7, 8] The World Health Organization's Simulation Exercise page does not contain any information for Dominica. [9]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2020. "Emergency Powers (Curfew) Order of 2020". [<https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/SRO-No.-15-Emergency-Powers-Curfew-Order-2020.pdf.pdf>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[2] Office of the President. 2020. "Statement on the Current Covid-19 Situation". [<http://presidentoffice.gov.dm/addresses-to-parliament/other-addresses/143-statement-on-the-current-covid-19-situation>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[3] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Press/Notices". [<http://odm.gov.dm/press-notices>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_)

health\_volume\_i\_final\_version.pdf\_new\_1.pdf]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] World Health Organization. 2020. "Simulation Exercise". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/simulation-exercise?region=All&country=254>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

### 3.2.1b

**Is there evidence that the country in the past year has identified a list of gaps and best practices in response (either through an infectious disease response or a biological-threat focused exercise) and developed a plan to improve response capabilities?**

Yes, the country has developed and published a plan to improve response capacity = 2 , Yes, the country has developed a plan to improve response capacity, but has not published the plan = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica in the past year has identified a list of gaps and best practices in response (either through an infectious disease response of a biological-threat focused exercise) and developed a plan to improve response capabilities. The World Health Organization's (WHO) Health Security Calendar does not list any activities in the country from 2019-2021. [1] WHO's country page does not list any exercises during the last year. [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, WHO after action review page, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding the country identifying a list of gaps and best practices in response (either through an infectious disease response of a biological-threat focused exercise) and developing a plan to improve response capabilities. [4, 5, 6, 7]

[1] World Health Organization. 2021. "Health Security Calendar". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/calendar>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization (WHO). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.who.int/countries/dma/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] World Health Organization. 2021. "After Action Review". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/after-action-review?region=All&country=254>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[6] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 3.2.2 Private sector engagement in exercises

### 3.2.2a

**Is there evidence that the country in the past year has undergone a national-level biological threat-focused exercise that has included private sector representatives?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no publicly available evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica in the past year has undergone a national-level biological threat-focused exercise that has included private sector representatives. In June 2019, the country participated in the regional Tradewinds Exercise. Descriptions of the exercise did not mention a national-level biological threat-focused exercise. [1, 2] During 2020, the country also participated in the regional CaribWave (tsunami preparedness) and SYNERGY (disaster readiness and response) simulation exercises, but neither was a biological threat-focused exercise that has included private sector representatives. [3, 4] The World Health Organization's (WHO) After Action Review site, Simulation Exercise site, Health Security Calendar and Dominica country page do not contain information regarding a national-level biological threat-focused exercise that has included private sector representatives. [5, 6, 7, 8] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [9] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a national-level biological threat-focused exercise that has included private sector representatives. [10, 11, 12]

[1] U.S. Southern Command. 2019. "Tradewinds 2019". [<https://www.southcom.mil/Media/Special-Coverage/Tradewinds-2019/igphoto/2002142203/>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[2] The St. Kitts & Nevis Observer. 2019. "Exercise Tradewinds discussed at RSS Council of Ministers' meeting". [<https://www.thestkittsnevisobserver.com/exercise-tradewinds-discussed-at-rss-council-of-ministers-meeting/>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[3] Southern California Earthquake Center. 2021. "Caribe Wave 2020". [<https://www.tsunamizone.org/caribewave/>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[4] Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency. 2019. "CDEMA kicks off Synergy Exercise focused on Strengthening Regional Coordination in Disaster Management". [<https://www.cdema.org/news-centre/press-releases/1929-cdema-kicks-off-synergy-exercise-focused-on-strengthening-regional-coordination-in-disaster-management>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[5] World Health Organization. 2021. "After Action Review". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/after-action-review?region=All&country=254>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[6] World Health Organization. 2021. "Health Security Calendar". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/calendar>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[7] World Health Organization (WHO). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.who.int/countries/dma/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[8] World Health Organization. 2020. "Simulation Exercise". [<https://extranet.who.int/sph/simulation-exercise?region=All&country=254>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[9] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[10] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[11] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[12] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 3.3 EMERGENCY RESPONSE OPERATION

### 3.3.1 Emergency response operation

#### 3.3.1a

Does the country have in place an Emergency Operations Center (EOC)?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is some public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has in place an Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Public information regarding the health sector EOC is limited, but at least two reports from the response to Tropical Storm Erika in 2015 document its existence and operation. [1, 2] The Pan American Health Organization supported the Ministry of Health (MOH) in setting up the health sector EOC for response efforts. [1] Further, the government's Rapid Damage and Impact Assessment stated, "The Ministry of Health set up its Emergency Operations Center –the Health EOC, in order to organize, coordinate and inform on its response to the event. Information from the Health EOC also informed policy makers so that appropriate emergency actions could be taken where health matters were concerned". [2] In addition, the Office of Disaster Management coordinates the national EOC for disaster response, as outlined in the 2001 National Disaster Plan; it is not clear if this EOC plays a role in response to public health emergencies. [3, 4] The government's National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 includes a goal to establish "Emergency Operation Centers (EOC) at the local level with overall coordination by the national EOC". The strategy does not further describe the EOC system. [5] Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator "C8.2 Management of health emergency response operations" and 40% for indicator "C6.2 Mechanism for event management (verification, risk assessment, analysis, investigation)". [6] However, according to the 2020 Implementation Status & Results Report for the World Bank's "OECS Regional Health Project", in which Dominica is a participant, the country's baseline JEE score for Question R.2.2. on emergency response was 1 as of November 2019. The score of 1 corresponds to "no capacity (no EOC structure or plans/procedures in place)". [7] The OECS Regional Health Project's activities include to "Update emergency plans, biohazard waste management systems, and Emergency Operation Centers (EOCs)". [8]

[1] Government Information Service. 2015. "PAHO Lends Support to Ministry of Health". [<http://news.gov.dm/news/2846-paho-lends-support-to-ministry-of-health>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2015. "Rapid Damage and Impact Assessment Tropical Storm Erika". [<https://info.undp.org/docs/pdc/Documents/BRB/Commonwealth%20of%20Dominica%20-%20Rapid%20Damage%20and%20Needs%20Assessment%20Final%20Report%20-Oct5.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Office of Disaster Management (ODM)". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/divisions/office-of-disaster-management-odm>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001." [[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[5] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. "National Resilience Development Strategy 2030". [[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] World Health Organization. 2019. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] World Bank. 2020. "Implementation Status & Results Report OECS Regional Health Project (P168539)". [<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/999021606245961476/pdf/Disclosable-Version-of-the-ISR-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-P168539-Sequence-No-03.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[8] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "OECS Regional Health Project".

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 3.3.1b

**Is the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) required to conduct a drill for a public health emergency scenario at least once per year or is there evidence that they conduct a drill at least once per year?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is required to conduct a drill for a public health emergency scenario at least once per year or that it conducts a drill at least once per year. The government’s 2010 Strategic Plan for Health (SPH), stated that “Regular simulation exercises should be held to test disaster plans”, but there is no public evidence that this has occurred. [1] Dominica is a participating country in the 2019-2024 OECS Regional Health Project, and its activities include to “Develop training and simulation curriculum for the country-level health workforce”. [2] The website of the Office of Disaster Management does not contain annual reports. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding an annual drill for a public health emergency scenario. [3, 5]

[1] Ministry of Health. 2010. “Strategic Plan for Health”.

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[2] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. “OECS Regional Health Project”.

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. “Home”. [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 3.3.1c

**Is there public evidence to show that the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has conducted within the last year a coordinated emergency response or emergency response exercise activated within 120 minutes of the identification of the public health emergency/scenario?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica’s Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has conducted within the last year a coordinated emergency response or emergency response exercise activated within 120 minutes of the identification of the public health emergency/scenario. The government’s 2010 Strategic Plan for Health (SPH) stated that “Regular simulation exercises should be held to test disaster plans”, but there is no public evidence that this has occurred. [1] Dominica is a participating country in the 2019-2024 OECS Regional Health Project, and its activities include to “Develop training and simulation curriculum for the country-level health workforce”. [2] Dominica was evaluated on JEE indicator R.2.2. in 2019 prior to the implementation of the OECS Regional Health Project. The country received a score of 1, which corresponds to “no capacity (no EOC structure or plans/procedures in place)”. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health,



Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding an annual drill for a public health emergency scenario with a response time of 120 minutes or less. [5, 6]

[1] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[2] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "OECS Regional Health Project".

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] World Bank. 2020. "Implementation Status & Results Report OECS Regional Health Project (P168539)".

[<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/999021606245961476/pdf/Disclosable-Version-of-the-ISR-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-P168539-Sequence-No-03.pdf>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 3.4 LINKING PUBLIC HEALTH AND SECURITY AUTHORITIES

### 3.4.1 Public health and security authorities are linked for rapid response during a biological event

#### 3.4.1a

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Is there public evidence that public health and national security authorities have carried out an exercise to respond to a potential deliberate biological event (i.e., bioterrorism attack)?

- Are there publicly available standard operating procedures, guidelines, memorandums of understanding (MOUs), or other agreements between the public health and security authorities to respond to a potential deliberate biological event (i.e., bioterrorism attack)?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

In the Commonwealth of Dominica, there is no public evidence that the country's public health and national security authorities have carried out an exercise to respond to a potential deliberate biological event or that there are publicly available standard operating procedures, guidelines, MOUs or other agreements between the public health and security authorities to respond to a potential deliberate biological event. In 2011, Canada reported that it had carried out a "Counter Terrorism Simulation Exercise: Response to a bioterrorist attack" in Barbados with the Organization of American States which involved multiple Caribbean countries, including Dominica. The report does not contain any additional information on the exercise, outcomes, or individual countries' involvement (or lack thereof). [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding an exercise or guidelines to respond to a potential deliberate biological event. [3, 4, 5]

- [1] Government of Canada. 2011. "Report on Compliance: Canada and BTWC". [[https://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/\(httpAssets\)/ADE0A27F0649DA49C125795D00595CEB/\\$file/BWC+7RC+Canada+&+Swiss+WP.pdf](https://www.unog.ch/80256EDD006B8954/(httpAssets)/ADE0A27F0649DA49C125795D00595CEB/$file/BWC+7RC+Canada+&+Swiss+WP.pdf)]. Accessed 30 January 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 3.5 RISK COMMUNICATIONS

### 3.5.1 Public communication

#### 3.5.1b

**Does the risk communication plan (or other legislation, regulation or strategy document used to guide national public health response) outline how messages will reach populations and sectors with different communications needs (eg different languages, location within the country, media reach)?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has in place a risk communication plan (or other legislation, regulation or strategy document used to guide national public health response) that outlines how messages will reach populations and sectors with different communications needs (e.g., different languages, location within the country, media reach). There are references to a risk communication plan for public health emergencies, but there is no publicly available copy of a such a plan on government websites. [1] In February 2013, the Minister of Health addressed the opening ceremony of a "Risk Communication Capacity Building Workshop" delivered by the Pan American Health Organization in Dominica. In his speech, the minister stated that Dominica had "produced a draft Risk Communication Plan which upon completion will outline procedures to address events of international health concerns". [2] In July 2013, the government reported that discussions were "ongoing to finalize Dominica's risk communication plan for public health emergencies of international significance". [3] According to a 2009 presentation entitled "Experiences & lessons learned in crisis communication for Influenza A H1N1 Pandemic", Dominica has risk communication plans for emergencies and disasters, pandemic influenza, and specifically H1N1 influenza. [4] However, no copy of a risk communication plan is publicly available. The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a risk communication plan that outlines how messages will reach populations and sectors with different communications needs. [6, 7]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2013. "Address by the Hon. Minister for Health". [[http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/phocadownload/userupload/acc4ad0207/minister\\_address\\_opening\\_ceremony\\_ihr\\_workshop.pdf](http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/phocadownload/userupload/acc4ad0207/minister_address_opening_ceremony_ihr_workshop.pdf)]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[3] Government Information Service. 2013. "DISCUSSIONS HELD TO STRENGTHEN THE RISK COMMUNICATION PLAN FOR

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES IN DOMINICA". [<http://www.news.gov.dm/news/830-discussions-held-to-strengthen-the-risk-communication-plan-for-public-health-emergencies-in-dominica>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[4] Peroune, Renee Franklin. 2009. "Experiences & lessons learned in crisis communication for Influenza A H1N1 pandemic". [[https://www.paho.org/disasters/index.php?option=com\\_docman&view=download&category\\_slug=courses-1&alias=996-experiences-lessons-learned-in-crisis-communication-for-influenza-a-h1n1-pandemic&Itemid=1179&lang=en](https://www.paho.org/disasters/index.php?option=com_docman&view=download&category_slug=courses-1&alias=996-experiences-lessons-learned-in-crisis-communication-for-influenza-a-h1n1-pandemic&Itemid=1179&lang=en)]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 3.5.1 Risk communication planning

#### 3.5.1a

**Does the country have in place, either in the national public health emergency response plan or in other legislation, regulation, or strategy documents, a section detailing a risk communication plan that is specifically intended for use during a public health emergency?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has in place, either in the national public health emergency response plan or in other legislation, regulation, or strategy documents, a section detailing a risk communication plan that is specifically intended for use during a public health emergency. There is no evidence of a publicly available overarching national public health emergency response plan. There are references to a risk communication plan for public health emergencies, but there is no publicly available copy of a such a plan on government websites. [1] In February 2013, the Minister of Health addressed the opening ceremony of a "Risk Communication Capacity Building Workshop" delivered by the Pan American Health Organization in Dominica. In his speech, the minister stated that Dominica had "produced a draft Risk Communication Plan which upon completion will outline procedures to address events of international health concerns". [2] In July 2013, the government reported that discussions were "ongoing to finalize Dominica's risk communication plan for public health emergencies of international significance". [3] However, no public copy of a risk communication plan is publicly available. The country's 2001 National Disaster Plan does not discuss risk communication for a public health emergency. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a risk communication plan that is specifically intended for use during a public health emergency. [6, 7]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2013. "Address by the Hon. Minister for Health". [[http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/phocadownload/userupload/acc4ad0207/minister\\_address\\_opening\\_ceremony\\_ihr\\_workshop.pdf](http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/phocadownload/userupload/acc4ad0207/minister_address_opening_ceremony_ihr_workshop.pdf)]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[3] Government Information Service. 2013. "DISCUSSIONS HELD TO STRENGTHEN THE RISK COMMUNICATION PLAN FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES IN DOMINICA". [<http://www.news.gov.dm/news/830-discussions-held-to-strengthen-the-risk-communication-plan-for-public-health-emergencies-in-dominica>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

- [4] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001." [[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 3.5.1c

**Does the risk communication plan (or other legislation, regulation or strategy document used to guide national public health response) designate a specific position within the government to serve as the primary spokesperson to the public during a public health emergency?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has in place a risk communication plan or other document that designates a specific position within the government to serve as the primary spokesperson to the public during a public health emergency. There are references to a risk communication plan for public health emergencies, but there is no publicly available copy of a such a plan on government websites. [1] The country's 2001 National Disaster Plan, which does not deal with public health emergencies and does not mention risk communication specifically, assigns communication responsibilities to the Government Information Service (GIS) during a natural disaster. [2] Specifically, the GIS Senior Information Officer is tasked to "Advise the ODM [Office of Disaster Management] on media related matters", keep "the public informed about disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness", "Liaise with the management and staff of the news media", "After securing approval from the executive, issue news releases", and "Gather facts on the crisis and prepare for dissemination of safety bulletins/clips to the media and public". [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a specific position within the government to serve as the primary spokesperson to the public during a public health emergency. [4, 5]

- [1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.
- [2] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001." [[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [5] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 3.5.2 Public communication

### 3.5.2a

**In the past year, is there evidence that the public health system has actively shared messages via online media platforms (e.g. social media, website) to inform the public about ongoing public health concerns and/or dispel rumors, misinformation or disinformation?**

Public health system regularly shares information on health concerns = 2, Public health system shares information only during active emergencies, but does not regularly utilize online media platforms = 1, Public health system does not regularly utilize online media platforms, either during emergencies or otherwise = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica, in the past year, has actively shared messages via online media platforms (eg social media, website) to inform the public about ongoing public health concerns. The public health system shares information only during active emergencies but does not regularly utilize online media platforms. The Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) has a Facebook page, which was created on March 19, 2020. MOH's messages on the page have only dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic, primarily daily reports of case counts and other data. [1] The Government Information Service (GIS) has a Facebook page that was created in 2014. Some of the GIS' recent posts deal with the COVID-19 pandemic, but there is no public evidence of information about other ongoing public health concerns. [2] GIS also has a website where it publishes press releases and articles, but these do not regularly deal with public health concerns. [3] The website of the Office of Disaster Management does not contain recent posts regarding public health concerns or links to a social media presence. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding actively shared messages via online media platforms (eg social media, website) to inform the public about ongoing public health concerns. [4, 6]

[1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Facebook".

[https://www.facebook.com/MinistryOfHealthDominica]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[2] Government Information Service (GIS). 2021. "Facebook". [https://www.facebook.com/GISNewsDominica/]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[3] Government Information Service (GIS). 2021. "Home". [http://news.gov.dm/]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [http://odm.gov.dm/]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 3.5.2b

**Is there evidence that senior leaders (president or ministers) have shared misinformation or disinformation on infectious diseases in the past two years?**

No = 1, Yes = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

In the Commonwealth of Dominica, there is no publicly available evidence that senior leaders (president or ministers) have shared misinformation or disinformation on infectious diseases in the past two years. Local news media do not mention cases of senior leaders of Dominica sharing misinformation or disinformation on infectious diseases in the past two years. [1, 2]

International news media do not mention cases of senior leaders of Dominica sharing misinformation or disinformation on infectious diseases in the past two years. [3, 4] During the COVID-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister criticized “dissemination of false information” as “biggest challenge to the fight to contain and manage the spread on the island” but did not criticize information emanating from the government or its leaders. [5]

[1] Dominica Vibes. 2021. “Home”. [<https://www.dominicavibes.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[2] Dominica Gazette. 2021. “Dominica News”. [<https://dominicagazette.com/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[3] BBC. 2021. “Search Results”. [<https://www.bbc.co.uk/search?q=dominica+misinformati&page=1>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[4] CNG Media. 2021. “Search”. [<https://www.caribbeannewsglobal.com/?s=dominica+misinformati>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Dominica Vibes. 2020. “False Information Identified as Biggest Challenge”. [<https://www.dominicavibes.dm/news-263691/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

## 3.6 ACCESS TO COMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE

### 3.6.1 Internet users

#### 3.6.1a

Percentage of households with Internet

Input number

Current Year Score: 69.62

2019

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

### 3.6.2 Mobile subscribers

#### 3.6.2a

Mobile-cellular telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants

Input number

Current Year Score: 105.79

2019

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

### 3.6.3 Female access to a mobile phone

#### 3.6.3a

Percentage point gap between males and females whose home has access to a mobile phone

Input number

Current Year Score: 3.14

2018-2019

Gallup; Economist Impact calculation

### 3.6.4 Female access to the Internet

#### 3.6.4a

Percentage point gap between males and females whose home has access to the Internet

Input number

**Current Year Score: 4.24**

2018-2019

Gallup; Economist Impact calculation

## 3.7 TRADE AND TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

### 3.7.1 Trade restrictions

#### 3.7.1a

**In the past year, has the country issued a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of medical goods (e.g. medicines, oxygen, medical supplies, PPE) due to an infectious disease outbreak?**

Yes = 0, No = 1

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica, in the past year, has issued a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of medical goods (e.g.: medicines, oxygen, medical supplies, PPE) due to an infectious disease outbreak. The World Trade Organization’s “COVID-19: Measures affecting trade in goods” webpage does not list any trade restrictions imposed by Dominica, nor does a similar dataset from Bloomberg Law. [1, 2] An academic article on “Trade in COVID-19-Related Medical Goods: Issues and Challenges for Commonwealth Countries” does not mention any restrictions on trading medical goods in Dominica. Dominica is a Commonwealth country. [3] An August 2020 statement from the country’s Director of Trade did not mention any restrictions on trading medical goods in Dominica. [4] The Customs and Excise Division’s webpage on Prohibited Imports and Exports does not contain any restrictions on trading medical goods due to an infectious disease outbreak. [5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations, and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional information regarding a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of medical goods due to an infectious disease outbreak. [7, 8, 9]

[1] World Trade Organization. 2020. “COVID-19: Measures affecting trade in goods”.

[[https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/covid19\\_e/trade\\_related\\_goods\\_measure\\_e.htm](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/covid19_e/trade_related_goods_measure_e.htm)]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Bloomberg Law. 2020. “International Trade Covid-19 Developments”.

[<https://www.bloomberglaw.com/product/health/document/XDL12EUG000000#St.%20Vincent>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Vickers, Brendan, et al. 2020. “Trade in COVID-19-Related Medical Goods: Issues and Challenges for Commonwealth Countries”.

[[https://thecommonwealth.org/sites/default/files/inline/D17111\\_V5\\_TRD\\_TradeHotTopics\\_THT\\_Covid\\_No1\\_B\\_Vickers.pdf](https://thecommonwealth.org/sites/default/files/inline/D17111_V5_TRD_TradeHotTopics_THT_Covid_No1_B_Vickers.pdf)].

Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] Dominica Vibes. 2020. "DOMINICA PERFORMING ADMIRABLY WELL IN TRADE DESPITE ECLAC's COVID PROJECTIONS". [https://www.dominicavibes.dm/news-267075/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Customs and Excise Division. 2021. "Prohibited Imports and Exports". [http://www.customs.gov.dm/index.php/88-trade/147-prohibited-imports-and-exports]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations. 2021. "Contact". [https://dominica.gov.dm/ministries/foreign-affairs-international-business-and-diaspora-relations]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[9] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [http://agriculture.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 3.7.1b

**In the past year, has the country issued a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of non-medical goods (e.g. food, textiles, etc) due to an infectious disease outbreak?**

Yes = 0, No = 1

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica, in the past year, has issued a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of non-medical goods (eg: food, textiles, etc) due to an infectious disease outbreak. The World Trade Organization's "COVID-19: Measures affecting trade in goods" webpage does not list any trade restrictions imposed by Dominica, nor does a similar dataset from Bloomberg Law. [1, 2] An August 2020 statement from the country's Director of Trade did not mention any restrictions on trading non-medical goods in Dominica. [3] The Customs and Excise Division's webpage on Prohibited Imports and Exports does not contain any restrictions on trading non-medical goods due to an infectious disease outbreak. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations, and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional information regarding a restriction, without international/bilateral support, on the export/import of non-medical goods due to an infectious disease outbreak. [6, 7, 8]

[1] World Trade Organization. 2020. "COVID-19: Measures affecting trade in goods".

[https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\_e/covid19\_e/trade\_related\_goods\_measure\_e.htm]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Bloomberg Law. 2020. "International Trade Covid-19 Developments".

[https://www.bloomberglaw.com/product/health/document/XDL12EUG000000#St.%20Vincent]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Dominica Vibes. 2020. "DOMINICA PERFORMING ADMIRABLY WELL IN TRADE DESPITE ECLAC's COVID PROJECTIONS".

[https://www.dominicavibes.dm/news-267075/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] Customs and Excise Division. 2021. "Prohibited Imports and Exports". [http://www.customs.gov.dm/index.php/88-trade/147-prohibited-imports-and-exports]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations. 2021. "Contact".



[<https://dominica.gov.dm/ministries/foreign-affairs-international-business-and-diaspora-relations>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 3.7.2 Travel restrictions

#### 3.7.2a

**In the past year, has the country implemented a ban, without international/bilateral support, on travelers arriving from a specific country or countries due to an infectious disease outbreak?**

Yes = 0, No = 1

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica, in the past year, has implemented a ban, without international/bilateral support, on travelers arriving from a specific country or countries due to an infectious disease outbreak. In January 2020, news media in Dominica quoted the Minister of Health and Wellness, stating that travel restrictions were placed on individuals traveling between Dominica and China due to the COVID-19 outbreak. [1] In April 2020, the President of Dominica declared a national emergency, and the Emergency Powers (Curfew) Order of 2020 imposed travel restrictions on all incoming visitors. Section 11 states: "With immediate effect -(a)except with the prior written permission of the Minister responsible for National Security, all airports shall be closed to incoming flights carrying any visitor; (b) all seaports shall be closed to seafaring and private boating; and (c) no visitor shall be permitted to enter and disembark for any reason, including transiting through the State of Dominica". [2]

[1] Dominica Vibes. 2020. "Travel Restrictions Placed on Dominica/China Travel". [<https://www.dominicavibes.dm/lifestyle-262198/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2020. "Emergency Powers (Curfew) Order of 2020". [<https://covidlawlab.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/SRO-No.-15-Emergency-Powers-Curfew-Order-2020.pdf.pdf>]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

## Category 4: Sufficient and robust health sector to treat the sick and protect health workers

### 4.1 HEALTH CAPACITY IN CLINICS, HOSPITALS, AND COMMUNITY CARE CENTERS

#### 4.1.1 Available human resources for the broader healthcare system

##### 4.1.1a

Doctors per 100,000 people

Input number

**Current Year Score: 111.89**

2017

WHO; national sources

#### 4.1.1b

**Nurses and midwives per 100,000 people**

Input number

**Current Year Score: 643.85**

2018

WHO; national sources

#### 4.1.1c

**Does the country have a health workforce strategy in place (which has been updated in the past five years) to identify fields where there is an insufficient workforce and strategies to address these shortcomings?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a health workforce strategy in place (which has been updated in the past five years) to identify fields where there is an insufficient workforce and strategies to address these shortcomings. The Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO) 2017 Health in the Americas profile of Dominica states that "the Ministry of Health has no human resource policy, plan or management position to deal with human resources for health and health planning." [1] The government's National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 states that the government needs to review "health policies, strategies and legislation" and perform "a re-evaluation of the human resource strategy". There is no public evidence that this has occurred. [2] The government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health (SPH) stated that "the HRH [human resources for health] function has traditionally been neglected, probably because it is complex and difficult, it requires skills which are not always available, and it is politically sensitive. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of Education, Human Resource Planning, Vocational Training and National Excellence, and Division of Labour do not contain additional information regarding a health workforce strategy in place (which has been updated in the past five years) to identify fields where there is an insufficient workforce and strategies to address these shortcomings. [5, 6, 7]

[1] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2017. "Health in the Americas – Dominica". [<https://www.paho.org/salud-en-las-americas-2017/?p=3988>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. "National Resilience Development Strategy 2030". [[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health". [[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>].

Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Education, Human Resource Planning, Vocational Training and National Excellence. 2021. "Home". [<http://education.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Division of Labour". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/divisions/division-of-labour/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

## 4.1.2 Facilities capacity

### 4.1.2a

#### Hospital beds per 100,000 people

Input number

**Current Year Score: 380**

2012

WHO/World Bank; national sources

### 4.1.2b

#### Does the country have the capacity to isolate patients with highly communicable diseases in a biocontainment patient care unit and/or patient isolation room/unit located within the country?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has the capacity to isolate patients with highly communicable diseases in a biocontainment patient care unit and/or patient isolation room/unit located within the country. In 2014, as part of the country's preparations due to the Ebola outbreak in Africa, Dominica's Chief Medical Officer stated that the country had "identified a number of sites" but did not yet "have everything in place for an isolation unit". [1] During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dominica has created government-operated quarantine facilities for isolating travelers. [2, 3] In addition, the Princess Margaret Hospital has a "COVID Isolation Unit", which appears to be a modified shipping container. There is no public information available describing the unit and if it has features such as negative air pressure systems. [4] According to the 2020 Implementation Status & Results Report for the World Bank's "OECS Regional Health Project", in which Dominica is a participant, the country has one "Equipped health facilities with isolation capacity". The report does not describe the location or features of the facility. [5] The country's hospitals do not have websites describing their facilities. The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional information regarding the capacity to isolate patients with highly communicable diseases in a biocontainment patient care unit. [7]

[1] Government Information Service. 2014. "Chief Medical Officer Reports On Contingency Plan For Ebola Virus". [<http://news.gov.dm/index.php/news/1752-chief-medical-officer-reports-on-contingency-plan-for-ebola-virus>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Discover Dominica Authority. 2021. "Travel Advisory for Dominica". [<https://discoverdominica.com/en/travel-advisory-for-dominica>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2020. "Travel Protocols".

[https://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/Travelprotocols\_Portrait\_rv8\_Nov8.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2020. "PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESPONSE TO COVID19 IN DOMINICA".

[https://www.campusvirtualsp.org/sites/default/files/primary\_health\_care\_response\_to\_covid19\_in\_dominica\_final-compressed.pdf]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] World Bank. 2020. "Implementation Status & Results Report OECS Regional Health Project (P168539)".

[http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/999021606245961476/pdf/Disclosable-Version-of-the-ISR-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-P168539-Sequence-No-03.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

### 4.1.2c

**Does the country meet one of the following criteria?**

**- Is there evidence that the country has demonstrated capacity to expand isolation capacity in response to an infectious disease outbreak in the past two years?**

**- Is there evidence that the country has developed, updated or tested a plan to expand isolation capacity in response to an infectious disease outbreak in the past two years?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has, in the past two years, demonstrated capacity to expand isolation capacity in response to an infectious disease outbreak or developed, updated or tested a plan to expand isolation capacity in response to an infectious disease outbreak. Publicly available information regarding public health emergency planning is limited in Dominica, and there is insufficient public evidence that Dominica has an overarching national public health emergency response plan in place. [5, 7] In 2014, as part of the country's preparations due to the Ebola outbreak in Africa, Dominica's Chief Medical Officer stated that the country had "identified a number of sites" but did not yet "have everything in place for an isolation unit". [1] During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dominica has created government-operated quarantine facilities for isolating travelers. [2, 3] In addition, the Princess Margaret Hospital has a "COVID Isolation Unit", which appears to be a modified shipping container. There is no public information available describing the unit and if it has features such as negative air pressure systems. [4] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [5] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding if Dominica has, in the past two years, demonstrated capacity to expand isolation capacity in response to an infectious disease outbreak or developed, updated or tested a plan to expand isolation capacity in response to an infectious disease outbreak. [6, 7]

[1] Government Information Service. 2014. "Chief Medical Officer Reports On Contingency Plan For Ebola Virus".

[http://news.gov.dm/index.php/news/1752-chief-medical-officer-reports-on-contingency-plan-for-ebola-virus]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Discover Dominica Authority. 2021. "Travel Advisory for Dominica". [https://discoverdominica.com/en/travel-advisory-for-dominica]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2020. "Travel Protocols".

[https://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/Travelprotocols\_Portrait\_rv8\_Nov8.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2020. "PRIMARY HEALTH CARE RESPONSE TO COVID19 IN DOMINICA".

[[https://www.campusvirtualsp.org/sites/default/files/primary\\_health\\_care\\_response\\_to\\_covid19\\_in\\_dominica\\_final-compressed.pdf](https://www.campusvirtualsp.org/sites/default/files/primary_health_care_response_to_covid19_in_dominica_final-compressed.pdf)]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[6] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 4.2 SUPPLY CHAIN FOR HEALTH SYSTEM AND HEALTHCARE WORKERS

### 4.2.1 Routine health care and laboratory system supply

#### 4.2.1a

**Is there a national procurement protocol in place which can be utilized by the Ministries of Health and Agriculture for the acquisition of laboratory supplies (e.g. equipment, reagents and media) and medical supplies (e.g. equipment, PPE) for routine needs?**

Yes for both laboratory and medical supply needs = 2, Yes, but only for one = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national procurement protocol in place which can be utilized by the Ministries of Health and Agriculture for the acquisition of laboratory supplies (such as equipment, reagents and media) and medical supplies (equipment, PPE) for routine needs. In January 2021, the government published a draft of the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Bill of 2021. The bill proposes an updated framework for public procurement across government ministries (including Health and Agriculture) that would implement changes such as bidding for contracts, electronic reverse auctions, limited competitive bidding, and other modalities for public procurement. [1, 2] The Ministry of Finance expects the bill to become law by April 2021. [2] Independent of national procurement protocols, Dominica participates in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) Pharmaceutical Procurement Services (PPS), which "procures medicines and allied health equipment on behalf of Member States". [3] According to the government's 2010 Strategic Plan for Health (SPH), the Ministry of Health's "Central Medical Stores [CMS] serves as the sole importer of Pharmaceutical products, Laboratory Reagents, and Dental Supplies", which it obtains from PPS and relationships with other distributors. CMS provides supplies to "seven health districts, the island's main referral hospital, Dental Services, Medical Laboratory, doctors in private practice and non-governmental organizations". [4] In 2021, the OECS reported that PPS was "operationalizing the Supply Chain Management of pooled Laboratory equipment and supplies on behalf of Member States". [5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional information regarding a national procurement protocol in place which can be utilized by the Ministries of Health and Agriculture for the acquisition of laboratory supplies (such as equipment, reagents and media) and medical supplies (equipment, PPE) for routine needs. [7, 8] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or website for a national hospital system. [9]

[1] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property Bill".

[[https://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/bills\\_for\\_review/JANUARY\\_5\\_2021\\_PUBLIC\\_PROCUREMENT\\_AND\\_DISPOSAL\\_OF\\_PROPERTY\\_BILL\\_2021.pdf](https://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/bills_for_review/JANUARY_5_2021_PUBLIC_PROCUREMENT_AND_DISPOSAL_OF_PROPERTY_BILL_2021.pdf)]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Government Information Service. 2021. "A NEW PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AND DISPOSAL OF PUBLIC PROPERTY ACT FOR

DOMINICA BY APRIL 2021". [<http://news.gov.dm/news/5160-a-new-public-procurement-and-disposal-of-public-property-act-for-dominica-by-april-2021>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "Pharmaceuticals". [<https://www.oecs.org/en/our-work/human-and-social/pharmaceuticals>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health. 2010. "Strategic Plan for Health".

[[https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning\\_cycle\\_repository/dominica/strategic\\_plan\\_for\\_health\\_volume\\_i\\_final\\_version.pdf\\_new\\_1.pdf](https://extranet.who.int/countryplanningcycles/sites/default/files/planning_cycle_repository/dominica/strategic_plan_for_health_volume_i_final_version.pdf_new_1.pdf)]. Accessed 29 January 2021.

[5] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "OECS Regional Health Project".

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[9] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

## 4.2.2 Stockpiling for emergencies

### 4.2.2a

**Does the country have a stockpile of medical supplies (e.g. MCMs, medicines, vaccines, medical equipment, PPE) for national use during a public health emergency?**

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is limited evidence about what the stockpile contains = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a stockpile of medical supplies (e.g. MCMs, medicines, vaccines, medical equipment, PPE) for national use during a public health emergency. Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator "C8.3 Emergency resource mobilization". [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a stockpile of medical supplies for national use during a public health emergency. [3, 4, 5] Dominica does not have a drug regulatory agency. [6] In 2020, the Minister of Health stated that the country was obtaining PPE supplies to be prepared for the COVID-19 pandemic. There is no public evidence that the country had a stockpile prior to the pandemic. [7] A 2021 article noted that the Office of Disaster Management operates warehouses with "emergency supplies and relief items", but there is no public evidence regarding what these supplies consist of. [8]

[1] World Health Organization. 2019. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[7] Dominica News Online. 2020. "Dominica scores 80% for coronavirus preparedness says health minister". [<https://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/news/dominica-scores-80-for-coronavirus-preparedness-says-health-minister/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[8] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "USSOUTHCOM SUPPORTS NATIONAL RELIEF, LOGISTICS AND WAREHOUSING PROGRAMME". [<http://odm.gov.dm/press-notice/115-ussouthcom-supports-national-relief-logistics-and-warehousing-programme>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

#### 4.2.2b

**Does the country have a stockpile of laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency?**

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is limited evidence about what the stockpile contains = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a stockpile of laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency. Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 80% for indicator "C8.3 Emergency resource mobilization". [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a stockpile of laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency. [3, 4, 5] Dominica does not have a drug regulatory agency. [6] A 2021 article noted that the Office of Disaster Management operates warehouses with "emergency supplies and relief items", but there is no public evidence regarding what these supplies consist of. [7]

[1] World Health Organization. 2019. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[7] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "USSOUTHCOM SUPPORTS NATIONAL RELIEF, LOGISTICS AND WAREHOUSING PROGRAMME". [<http://odm.gov.dm/press-notice/115-ussouthcom-supports-national-relief-logistics-and-warehousing-programme>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

### 4.2.2c

**Is there evidence that the country conducts or requires an annual review of the national stockpile to ensure the supply is sufficient for a public health emergency?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the government of the Commonwealth of Dominica conducts or requires an annual review of the national stockpile to ensure the supply is sufficient for a public health emergency. There is insufficient public evidence that Dominica has a stockpile of medical and laboratory supplies. A 2021 article noted that the Office of Disaster Management operates warehouses with “emergency supplies and relief items”, but there is no public evidence regarding what these supplies consist of. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding an annual review of the national stockpile to ensure the supply is sufficient for a public health emergency. [3, 4, 5] Dominica does not have a drug regulatory agency. [6]

[1] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "USSOUTHCOM SUPPORTS NATIONAL RELIEF, LOGISTICS AND WAREHOUSING PROGRAMME". [<http://odm.gov.dm/press-notices/115-ussouthcom-supports-national-relief-logistics-and-warehousing-programme>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalsecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

## 4.2.3 Manufacturing and procurement for emergencies

### 4.2.3a

**Does the country meet one of the following criteria?**

- Is there evidence of a plan/agreement to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce medical supplies (e.g. MCMs, medicines, vaccines, equipment, PPE) for national use during a public health emergency?

- Is there evidence of a plan/mechanism to procure medical supplies (e.g. MCMs, medicines, vaccines, equipment, PPE) for national use during a public health emergency?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a plan/agreement to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce medical supplies (e.g. MCMs, medicines, vaccines, equipment, PPE) or a plan/mechanism to procure medical supplies for national use during a public health emergency. The country’s 2001 National Disaster Plan, which does not plan for public health emergencies specifically, does not contain plans for procurement of medical supplies. Section 5.5.31 of the plan outlines the responsibilities of District Emergency Committees (DEC), which are tasked to “Establish



operational plans for the procurement and deployment of resources (manpower, material and equipment) in the District during disasters". The plan does not provide additional information. [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's healthcare system noted the need to "develop and implement an electronic inventory management system for the public sector" because "the current inventory management system is ill-equipped to handle the procurement, distribution, and tracking needs of the MOH [Ministry of Health]". [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a plan/agreement/mechanism to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity or to procure medical supplies for national use during a public health emergency. [4, 5, 6] Dominica does not have a drug regulatory agency. [7] During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dominica used emergency funds from the World Bank to purchase PPE and pharmaceuticals, but additional public information regarding procurement is not available. [8]

[1] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001."

[[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalsecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[8] World Bank. 2020. "Additional Financing for the OECS Regional Health Project (P174096)".

[<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/833741593482727507/pdf/Dominica-Grenada-and-Saint-Vincent-and-the-Grenadines-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-Additional-Financing.pdf>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

#### 4.2.3b

Does the country meet one of the following criteria?

- Is there evidence of a plan/agreement to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency?

- Is there evidence of a plan/mechanism to procure laboratory supplies (e.g. reagents, media) for national use during a public health emergency?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a plan/agreement to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity to produce laboratory supplies (e.g., reagents, media) or a plan/mechanism to procure laboratory supplies for national use during a public health emergency. The country's 2001 National Disaster Plan, which does not plan for public health emergencies specifically, does not contain plans for procurement of laboratory supplies. Section 5.5.31 of the plan outlines the responsibilities of District Emergency Committees (DEC), which are tasked to "Establish operational plans for the procurement and deployment of resources (manpower, material and equipment) in the District during disasters". The plan

does not provide additional information. [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's healthcare system noted the need to "develop and implement an electronic inventory management system for the public sector" because "the current inventory management system is ill-equipped to handle the procurement, distribution, and tracking needs of the MOH [Ministry of Health]". In addition, the assessment noted that "forecasting of consumable supplies (i.e., laboratory reagents) is not effectively considered". [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a plan/agreement/mechanism to leverage domestic manufacturing capacity or to procure laboratory supplies for national use during a public health emergency. [4, 5, 6] Dominica does not have a drug regulatory agency. [7] In 2021, the OECS reported that its Pharmaceutical Procurement Services, in which Dominica participates, was "operationalizing the Supply Chain Management of pooled laboratory equipment and supplies on behalf of Member States". [8]

[1] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001."

[[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [<http://nationalsecurity.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[8] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "OECS Regional Health Project".

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 4.3 MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES AND PERSONNEL DEPLOYMENT

### 4.3.1 System for dispensing medical countermeasures (MCM) during a public health emergency

#### 4.3.1a

**Does the country have a plan, program, or guidelines in place for dispensing medical countermeasures (MCM) for national use during a public health emergency (i.e., antibiotics, vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics)?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a plan, program, or guidelines in place for dispensing medical countermeasures (MCM) for national use during a public health emergency (i.e., antibiotics, vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics). The country's 2001 National Disaster Plan, which does not plan for public health emergencies specifically, does not contain plans for dispensing MCMs. Section 5.5.31 of the plan outlines the responsibilities of District Emergency Committees (DEC), which are tasked to "Establish operational plans for the procurement and deployment of resources

(manpower, material and equipment) in the District during disasters”. The plan does not provide additional information. [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica’s healthcare system noted the need to “develop and implement an electronic inventory management system for the public sector” because “the current inventory management system is ill-equipped to handle the procurement, distribution, and tracking needs of the MOH [Ministry of Health]”. [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding dispensing MCMs. [4, 5, 6]

[1] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001."

[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\_disaster\_plan.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [http://odm.gov.dm/]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 4.3.2 System for receiving foreign health personnel during a public health emergency

### 4.3.2a

**Is there a public plan in place to receive health personnel from other countries to respond to a public health emergency?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a public plan in place to receive health personnel from other countries to respond to a public health emergency. The country’s 2001 National Disaster Plan, which does not plan for public health emergencies specifically, tasks the Foreign Assistance Task Force to “arrange for the facilitation of the entry of government-approved relief and disaster response service personnel, of foreign governments and other organizations, and their gear” prior to disasters” (Section 5.4.11). In addition, in Section 5.4.1, the Health Services Task Force is tasked to “coordinate the deployment and control of medical personnel”. Additional public plans regarding how these responsibilities are implemented in a public health emergency are not available. [1] In practice, Cuban and Chinese medical professionals supplement national medical staff in Dominica in routine and emergency operations, but no public information is available regarding the details of these arrangements. [2] Following Hurricane Maria in 2017, the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), of which Dominica is a member, deployed staff to the country to assist in assessment and response. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit, Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs, and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a public plan in place to receive health personnel from other countries to respond to a public health emergency”. [5, 6, 7]

- [1] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001." [http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\_disaster\_plan.pdf]. Accessed 28 January 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Budget Address 2019 - 2020: Recovery, Modernisation, Transformation: A New Season Of Development For Dominica". [http://finance.gov.dm/budget/budget-addresses/file/30-budget-address-2019-2020-recovery-modernisation-transformation-a-new-season-of-development-for-dominica]. Accessed 31 January 2021.
- [3] CARICOM Today. 25 September 2017. "CARPHA ready to assist Dominica". [https://today.caricom.org/2017/09/21/carpha-ready-to-assist-dominica/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.
- [5] Ministry of National Security and Home Affairs. 2021. "Home". [http://nationalecurity.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [7] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [http://odm.gov.dm/]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

## 4.4 HEALTHCARE ACCESS

### 4.4.1 Access to healthcare

#### 4.4.1a

**Does the constitution explicitly guarantee citizens' right to medical care?**

Guaranteed free = 4, Guaranteed right = 3, Aspirational or subject to progressive realization = 2, Guaranteed for some groups, not universally = 1, No specific provision = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

2020

World Policy Analysis Center

#### 4.4.1b

**Access to skilled birth attendants (% of population)**

Input number

**Current Year Score: 96**

2016

WHO/World Bank/United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

#### 4.4.1c

**Out-of-pocket health expenditures per capita, purchasing power parity (PPP; current international \$)**

Input number

**Current Year Score: 203.27**

2017

WHO Global Health Expenditure database

## 4.4.2 Paid medical leave

### 4.4.2a

**Are workers guaranteed paid sick leave?**

Paid sick leave = 2, Unpaid sick leave = 1, No sick leave = 0

**Current Year Score: 2**

2020

World Policy Analysis Center

## 4.4.3 Healthcare worker access to healthcare

### 4.4.3a

**Has the government issued legislation, a policy, or a public statement committing to provide prioritized healthcare services to healthcare workers who become sick as a result of responding to a public health emergency?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has issued legislation, a policy, or a public statement committing to provide prioritized healthcare services to healthcare workers who become sick as a result of responding to a public health emergency. The country's 2001 National Disaster Plan, which does not plan for public health emergencies specifically, does not mention prioritized healthcare services to healthcare workers. [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's healthcare system noted the need for "new laws governing public health emergencies" that would "outline the roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders in responding to public health emergencies". [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding legislation, a policy, or a public statement committing to provide prioritized healthcare services to healthcare workers who become sick as a result of responding to a public health emergency. [4]

[1] National Emergency Planning Organisation. 2001. "The Commonwealth of Dominica National Disaster Plan 2001." [[http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national\\_disaster\\_plan.pdf](http://odm.gov.dm/images/docs/national_disaster_plan.pdf)]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 4.5 COMMUNICATIONS WITH HEALTHCARE WORKERS DURING A PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

### 4.5.1 Communication with healthcare workers

#### 4.5.1a

**Is there a system in place for public health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during a public health emergency?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a system in place for public health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during a public health emergency.

In late 2019, the government reported that it had carried out training in all the country's health districts and provided them all with "handheld HAM radios" for "2-way communication" in emergencies. [1] Further, the government also announced it had invested in a communications network to link local/district emergency operations centers (EOC) with the national EOC to "improve emergency communications", enabling "communities to communicate with each other and the national EOC before, during and after an event". [1] However, there is no evidence that these systems include public health officials specifically. Reports from 2012 and 2015 had highlighted the lack of emergency communications in the health sector and the need to equip facilities with radios. [2, 3]

[1] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019".

[<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [<https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2015. "Rapid Damage and Impact Assessment Tropical Storm Erika".

[<https://info.undp.org/docs/pdc/Documents/BRB/Commonwealth%20of%20Dominica%20-%20Rapid%20Damage%20and%20Needs%20Assessment%20Final%20Report%20-Oct5.pdf>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

#### 4.5.1b

**Does the system for public health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during an emergency encompass healthcare workers in both the public and private sector?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica's system for public health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during an emergency encompasses healthcare workers in both the public and private sector. The government's announcement of measures taken to establish two-way emergency communication in the health sector in late 2019 does not mention healthcare workers in the private sector, instead only referring to the public healthcare system. [1] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [2] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional information regarding a system for public health officials and healthcare workers to communicate during an

emergency that encompasses healthcare workers in both the public and private sector. [3, 4]

- [1] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019". [<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [2] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.
- [3] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.
- [4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 4.6 INFECTION CONTROL PRACTICES AND AVAILABILITY OF EQUIPMENT

### 4.6.1 Healthcare associated infection (HCAI) prevention and control programs

#### 4.6.1a

**Is there evidence that the national public health system is monitoring for and tracking the number of healthcare associated infections (HCAI) that take place in healthcare facilities?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica's national public health system is monitoring for and tracking the number of healthcare associated infections (HCAI) that take place in healthcare facilities. A 2014 presentation from the Ministry of Health (MOH) to the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) stated that HCAI were monitored in Dominica by the "infection control department", including Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), extended spectrum beta-lactamase (ESBL), and vancomycin-resistant enterococcus (VRE) via "manual collection of data". The presentation did not provide additional information. [1] The 2003 Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations do not mention HCAI monitoring. [2] Dominica's 2019 International Health Regulations (IHR) State Party self-assessment annual report scored the country at 40% for indicator "Capacity for infection prevention and control and chemical and radiation decontamination". [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding monitoring for and tracking HCAI. [5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system or public health institute. [6]

- [1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2014. "Commonwealth of Dominica". [<http://carpha.org:8086/Portals/0/docs/MEETINGS/AMR%20Workshop/AMR%20Surveillance%20in%20Dominica.pdf>]
- [2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2003. "Environmental Health Services (Communicable and Notifiable Diseases) Regulations". [[https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM\\_Communicable\\_and\\_Notifiable\\_Diseases\\_Regulations.pdf](https://www.vertic.org/media/National%20Legislation/Dominica/DM_Communicable_and_Notifiable_Diseases_Regulations.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [3] World Health Organization. 2019. "IHR Score per capacity - Dominica". [<https://extranet.who.int/e-spar/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.
- [4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.
- [5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27

January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

## 4.7 CAPACITY TO TEST AND APPROVE NEW MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES

### 4.7.1 Regulatory process for conducting clinical trials of unregistered interventions

#### 4.7.1a

**Is there a national requirement for ethical review (e.g., from an ethics committee or via Institutional Review Board approval) before beginning a clinical trial?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a national requirement for ethical review (e.g., from an ethics committee or via Institutional Review Board approval) before beginning a clinical trial. According to the country's 2012 Pharmaceutical Country Profile, published by the Ministry of Health (MOH) in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), "legal provisions do not exist requiring authorization for conducting Clinical Trials" and "there are no additional laws requiring the agreement by an ethics committee or institutional review board of the Clinical Trials to be performed". [1] Journal articles from 2016 and 2018 on the clinical trial process in Latin America and the Caribbean do not describe any national requirements for ethical review before beginning a clinical trial in Dominica. [2, 3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding national requirements for ethical review before beginning a clinical trial. [5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [6]

[1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2012. "Pharmaceutical Country Profile". [<https://www.paho.org/hq/dmdocuments/2013/PHARMACEUTICAL-COUNTRY-PROFILE-DOMINICA.pdf>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Rodríguez-Feria, et al. 2016. "Progress in trial registration in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2007–2013". [<https://scielosp.org/article/rp/2017.v41/e31/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Aarons D. 2018. "Research in epidemic and emergency situations: A model for collaboration and expediting ethics review in two Caribbean countries". [<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6586066/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

#### 4.7.1b

**Is there an expedited process for approving clinical trials for unregistered medical countermeasures (MCM) to treat ongoing epidemics?**



Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has an expedited process for approving clinical trials for unregistered medical countermeasures (MCM) to treat ongoing epidemics. According to the country's 2012 Pharmaceutical Country Profile, published by the Ministry of Health (MOH) in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), "legal provisions do not exist requiring authorization for conducting Clinical Trials" and "there are no additional laws requiring the agreement by an ethics committee or institutional review board of the Clinical Trials to be performed". [1] Journal articles from 2016 and 2018 on the clinical trial process in Latin America and the Caribbean do not describe any national requirements for ethical review or an expedited process. [2, 3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding national requirements for ethical review or an expedited process. [5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [6]

[1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2012. "Pharmaceutical Country Profile". [https://www.paho.org/hq/dmdocuments/2013/PHARMACEUTICAL-COUNTRY-PROFILE-DOMINICA.pdf]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Rodríguez-Feria, et al. 2016. "Progress in trial registration in Latin America and the Caribbean, 2007–2013". [https://scielosp.org/article/rpsp/2017.v41/e31/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Aarons D. 2018. "Research in epidemic and emergency situations: A model for collaboration and expediting ethics review in two Caribbean countries". [https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6586066/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [https://dominica.gov.dm/]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

## 4.7.2 Regulatory process for approving medical countermeasures

### 4.7.2a

**Is there a government agency responsible for approving new medical countermeasures (MCM) for humans?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a government agency responsible for approving new medical countermeasures (MCM) for humans. According to the country's 2012 Pharmaceutical Country Profile, published by the Ministry of Health (MOH) in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), "In Dominica, there are no Medicines Regulatory Authority (MRA)". [1] Further, in Dominica "legal provisions do not require marketing authorization (registration) for pharmaceutical products on the market"; "mutual recognition mechanisms are not in place"; and "information from the WHO prequalification programme is not used". [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's healthcare system noted the need to pass new legislation regarding MCM and that a "Pharmacy Act has been in draft form for several years". [2] There is no public evidence that the act has since passed. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding a government agency responsible for approving new medical countermeasures (MCM) for humans. [5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or

ministry of research. [3]

[1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2012. "Pharmaceutical Country Profile". [https://www.paho.org/hq/dmdocuments/2013/PHARMACEUTICAL-COUNTRY-PROFILE-DOMINICA.pdf]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [https://dominica.gov.dm/]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

#### 4.7.2b

**Is there an expedited process for approving medical countermeasures (MCM) for human use during public health emergencies?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has an expedited process for approving medical countermeasures (MCM) for human use during public health emergencies. According to the country's 2012 Pharmaceutical Country Profile, published by the Ministry of Health (MOH) in collaboration with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), "In Dominica, there are no Medicines Regulatory Authority (MRA)". [1] Further, in Dominica "legal provisions do not require marketing authorization (registration) for pharmaceutical products on the market"; "mutual recognition mechanisms are not in place"; and "information from the WHO prequalification programme is not used". The profile does not mention an expedited process for approval of MCMs. [1] A 2012 assessment of Dominica's healthcare system noted the need to pass new legislation regarding MCM and that a "Pharmacy Act has been in draft form for several years". [2] There is no public evidence that the act has since passed. [3] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [4] The website of the MOH Health Promotion Unit does not contain additional public information regarding an expedited process for approving medical countermeasures (MCM) for human use during public health emergencies. [5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [3]

[1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2012. "Pharmaceutical Country Profile". [https://www.paho.org/hq/dmdocuments/2013/PHARMACEUTICAL-COUNTRY-PROFILE-DOMINICA.pdf]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] United States Agency for International Development (USAID). 2012. "Dominica Health Systems and Private Sector Assessment". [https://www.hfgproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/Dominica-Health-Systems-and-Private-Sector-Assessment.pdf]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [https://dominica.gov.dm/]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

[4] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [http://health.gov.dm/]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/]. Accessed 27

January 2021.

## Category 5: Commitments to improving national capacity, financing plans to address gaps, and adhering to global norms

### 5.1 INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATIONS (IHR) REPORTING COMPLIANCE AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

#### 5.1.1 Official IHR reporting

##### 5.1.1a

Has the country submitted IHR reports to the WHO for the previous calendar year?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2020

World Health Organization

#### 5.1.2 Integration of health into disaster risk reduction

##### 5.1.2a

Are epidemics and pandemics integrated into the national risk reduction strategy or is there a standalone national disaster risk reduction strategy for epidemics and pandemics?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient public evidence that epidemics are integrated into the Commonwealth of Dominica's national risk reduction strategy; the document does not mention pandemics, nor is there public evidence of a standalone national disaster risk reduction strategy for epidemics and pandemics. In September 2014, the Office of Disaster Management published Dominica's Disaster Risk Reduction Country Profile. [1] The profile includes epidemics among its "Category of Hazards" (Table 6). Section 5.3 of the profile discusses "Emergencies affecting Public Health and Safety", specifically citing the "outbreak of the Ebola virus in West African states and the declaration of a Global health emergency by the World Health Organization (WHO)" as an example of why Dominica should review its "national emergency plans and strengthen health facilities and public institutions". [1] Actions outlined in the profile include "Improving Surveillance Systems to Identify Threats to Public Health", instituting "Rapid epidemiological evaluation methods", and "Rapid environmental sampling in response to reports of environmental health risks", among others. [1] The government's National Resilience Development Strategy 2030 states that the "Government will implement a 'National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction' to apply to the period 2018-2022", but there is no public evidence that such a plan has been published. [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion

Unit and National Emergency Planning Organisation do not contain additional public information regarding epidemics and pandemics integrated into the national risk reduction strategy or a standalone national disaster risk reduction strategy for epidemics and pandemics. [4, 5]

[1] Office of Disaster Management. 2014. "Disaster Risk Reduction Country Profile". [<http://dipecholac.net/docs/files/786-cd-dominica-web.pdf>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2018. "National Resilience Development Strategy 2030". [[http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national\\_resilience\\_development\\_strategy\\_2030.pdf](http://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/national_resilience_development_strategy_2030.pdf)]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] National Emergency Planning Organisation/Office of Disaster Management. 2021. "Home". [<http://odm.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## 5.2 CROSS-BORDER AGREEMENTS ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND ANIMAL HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE

### 5.2.1 Cross-border agreements

#### 5.2.1a

**Does the country have cross-border agreements, protocols, or MOUs with neighboring countries, or as part of a regional group, with regards to public health emergencies?**

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in implementation = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 2**

The Commonwealth of Dominica has cross-border agreements as part of a regional group with regards to public health emergencies and there is evidence of implementation. Dominica is a member of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA). CARPHA is an agency of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and was founded in 2011 via an inter-governmental agreement. Article 4 of the agreement states CARPHA's objectives, which include "to support the Caribbean Community in preparing for and responding to public health emergencies". [1] In order to achieve this objective, CARPHA is tasked with "coordination of effective responses to public health crises in the Caribbean" and "provision of accurate, reliable, timely and relevant public health information to various Caribbean and international audiences". [1] In 2019, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) began implementation of a World Bank-financed Regional Health Project that includes Dominica as well as CARPHA. The project's activities include tasks to enhance public health surveillance at the national and regional levels as well as "Strengthening national and regional emergency management and response capacities to respond swiftly and effectively to outbreak threats". [2] During the COVID-19 pandemic, Dominica has participated in weekly regional meetings of national disaster coordinators. [3]

[1] Caribbean Public Health Agency. 2011. "AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE CARIBBEAN PUBLIC HEALTH AGENCY (CARPHA)". [[https://carpha.org/Portals/0/Documents/CARPHA\\_IGA.pdf](https://carpha.org/Portals/0/Documents/CARPHA_IGA.pdf)]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "OECS Regional Health Project". [<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[3] Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA). 2020. "CDEMA and the UN convene Caribbean Partner Donor Group Meeting amid COVID-19 crisis". [<https://www.cdema.org/news-centre/press-releases/2021-cdema-and-the-un->

convene-caribbean-partner-donor-group-meeting-amid-covid-19-crisis]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

### 5.2.1b

**Does the country have cross-border agreements, protocols, or MOUs with neighboring countries, or as part of a regional group, with regards to animal health emergencies?**

Yes = 2, Yes, but there is evidence of gaps in implementation = 1, No = 0

**Current Year Score: 2**

The Commonwealth of Dominica has cross-border agreements as part of regional groups with regards to animal health emergencies and there is no public evidence of gaps in implementation. Dominica is a member of the Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA). CAHFSA's objectives include to "provide an effective mechanism to respond rapidly to emergencies and emerging issues" and to "provide a mechanism for the coordination and integration of technical support to stakeholders by relevant regional and international organization". [1] In addition, Dominica is a member of the CaribVET Caribbean animal health network. CaribVET's objectives include to "assist in implementation of early warning, early detection and quick response mechanisms for animal and zoonotic diseases" and to "improve and harmonize the surveillance and control of animal and zoonotic diseases". [2] In June 2018, Dominica participated in the "Special Session - Disaster Risk Reduction & Management" at CaribVET's 13th Steering Committee Meeting, sharing its experience preparing for and responding to animal health emergencies in the context of Hurricanes Maria and Irma. [3]

[1] Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency. 2020. "Objectives". [<https://www.cahfsa.org/about-us/objectives>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] CaribVET Caribbean animal health network. 2020. "About the network". [<https://www.caribvet.net/about-the-network>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] CaribVET Caribbean animal health network. 2018. "Special Session - Disaster Risk Reduction & Management, 13 June 2018". [<https://www.caribvet.net/meetings-conferences/caribvet-meetings/governance-and-coordination/emergency-preparedness-drrm>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

## 5.3 INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS

### 5.3.1 Participation in international agreements

#### 5.3.1a

**Does the county have signatory and ratification (or same legal effect) status to the Biological Weapons Convention?**

Signed and ratified (or action having the same legal effect) = 2, Signed = 1, Non-compliant or not a member = 0

**Current Year Score: 2**

2021

Biological Weapons Convention

#### 5.3.1b

**Has the country submitted confidence building measures for the Biological Weapons Convention in the past three years?**

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

Biological Weapons Convention

### 5.3.1c

Has the state provided the required United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 report to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (1540 Committee)?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2021

Biological Weapons Convention

### 5.3.1d

Extent of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1540 implementation related to legal frameworks and enforcement for countering biological weapons:

Very good (60+ points) = 4, Good (45–59 points) = 3, Moderate (30–44 points) = 2, Weak (15–29 points) = 1, Very weak (0–14 points) or no matrix exists/country is not party to the BWC = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2021

Biological Weapons Convention

## 5.3.2 Voluntary memberships

### 5.3.2a

Does the country meet at least 2 of the following criteria?

- Membership in Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA)
- Membership in the Alliance for Country Assessments for Global Health Security and IHR Implementation (JEE Alliance)
- Membership in the Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction (GP)
- Membership in the Australia Group (AG)
- Membership in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI)

Needs to meet at least two of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure. , Yes for five = 1 , Yes for four = 1 , Yes for three = 1 , Yes for two = 1 , Yes for one = 0 , No for all = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

Global Health Security Agenda; JE Alliance; Global Partnership; Australia Group; PSI

## 5.4 JOINT EXTERNAL EVALUATION (JEE) AND PERFORMANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES PATHWAY (PVS)

### 5.4.1 Completion and publication of a Joint External Evaluation (JEE) assessment and gap analysis

#### 5.4.1a

Has the country completed a Joint External Evaluation (JEE) or precursor external evaluation (e.g., GHSA pilot external assessment) and published a full public report in the last five years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

WHO Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH); Global Health Security Agenda

#### 5.4.1b

Has the country completed and published, within the last five years, either a National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS) to address gaps identified through the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) assessment or a national GHSA roadmap that sets milestones for achieving each of the GHSA targets?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

WHO Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH); Global Health Security Agenda

### 5.4.2 Completion and publication of a Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) assessment and gap analysis

#### 5.4.2a

Has the country completed and published a Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) assessment in the last five years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

OIE PVS assessments

#### 5.4.2b

Has the country completed and published a Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) gap analysis in the last five years?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

OIE PVS assessments

## 5.5 FINANCING

### 5.5.1 National financing for epidemic preparedness

#### 5.5.1a

**Is there evidence that the country has allocated national funds to improve capacity to address epidemic threats within the past three years?**

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is insufficient public evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has allocated national funds to improve capacity to address epidemic threats within the past three years. The government's "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019" mentions three activities to improve capacity to address epidemic threats but does not provide a budget for any of them. The activities were: "Refresher training of health care professionals on routine surveillance protocols related to emerging infectious diseases and endemic diseases; Acquisition of applicable software and training of staff in influenza surveillance; Formation of a steering committee and appointment of a focal person for tuberculosis surveillance". [1] Specific budget allocations for the activities mentioned above are not publicly available. [2] The government's budget address from 2018-2021 do not mention allocating national funds to improve capacity to address epidemic threats. [3, 4, 5] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [6] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional information regarding national funds to improve capacity to address epidemic threats within the past three years. [7, 8]

[1] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Economic and Social Review for Fiscal Year 2018-2019".

[<http://finance.gov.dm/national-development-strategies/economic-and-social-review/file/29-economic-and-social-review-for-fiscal-year-2018-2019>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[2] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2021. "Home". [<http://finance.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2018. "Budget Address 2018 - 2019: From Survival, to Sustainability and Success: A Resilient Dominica". [<http://finance.gov.dm/budget/budget-addresses/file/27-budget-address-2018-2019-from-survival-to-sustainability-and-success-a-resilient-dominica>].

[4] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2019. "Budget Address 2019 - 2020: Recovery, Modernisation, Transformation: A New Season Of Development For Dominica". [<http://finance.gov.dm/budget/budget-addresses/file/30-budget-address-2019-2020-recovery-modernisation-transformation-a-new-season-of-development-for-dominica>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Finance and Investment. 2020. "Budget Address 2020-2021 - "The Road To Dynamic Dominica - Fostering Economic Resilience" by Hon. Roosevelt Skerrit". [<http://finance.gov.dm/budget/budget-addresses/file/36-budget-address-2020-2021-the-road-to-dynamic-dominica-fostering-economic-resilience-by-hon-roosevelt-skerrit>].

[6] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[7] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.



[8] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. "Home". [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

## 5.5.2 Financing under Joint External Evaluation (JEE) and Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) reports and gap analyses

### 5.5.2a

Does the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) report, National Action Plan for Health Security (NAPHS), and/or national GHSA roadmap allocate or describe specific funding from the national budget (covering a time-period either in the future or within the past five years) to address the identified gaps?

Yes = 1 , No/country has not conducted a JEE = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

WHO Strategic Partnership for IHR and Health Security (SPH); Global Health Security Agenda

### 5.5.2b

Does the Performance of Veterinary Services (PVS) gap analysis and/or PVS assessment allocate or describe specific funding from the national budget (covering a time-period either in the future or within the past five years) to address the identified gaps?

Yes = 1 , No/country has not conducted a PVS = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

OIE PVS assessments

## 5.5.3 Financing for emergency response

### 5.5.3a

Is there a publicly identified special emergency public financing mechanism and funds which the country can access in the face of a public health emergency (such as through a dedicated national reserve fund, an established agreement with the World Bank pandemic financing facility/other multilateral emergency funding mechanism, or other pathway identified through a public health or state of emergency act)?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

In the Commonwealth of Dominica, there is public evidence that the country has a publicly identified special emergency public financing mechanism and funds which the country can access in the face of a public health emergency. Dominica qualifies for credits from the World Bank's International Development Association and thus has access to the Bank's Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF). [1, 2] In addition, Dominica holds a policy with the Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF), but the policy can only be activated by hurricanes, earthquakes or excess rainfall catastrophes. [3] In 2020, the World Bank provided emergency financing for Dominica in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. [4]

[1] World Bank Group. 2018. "What is IDA? Borrowing Countries". [<http://ida.worldbank.org/about/borrowing-countries>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF). 2017. "Operational Brief for Eligible Countries". [<http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/119961516647620597/PEF-Operational-Brief-Dec-2017.pdf>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility. 2021. "About Us". [<https://www.ccrif.org/content/about-us>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] World Bank. 2020. "Additional Financing for the OECS Regional Health Project (P174096)". [<http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/833741593482727507/pdf/Dominica-Grenada-and-Saint-Vincent-and-the-Grenadines-OECS-Regional-Health-Project-Additional-Financing.pdf>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

## 5.5.4 Accountability for commitments made at the international stage for addressing epidemic threats

### 5.5.4a

Is there evidence that senior leaders (president or ministers), in the past three years, have made a public commitment either to:

- Support other countries to improve capacity to address epidemic threats by providing financing or support?
- Improve the country's domestic capacity to address epidemic threats by expanding financing or requesting support to improve capacity?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is no publicly available evidence that, in the last three years, senior leaders of the Commonwealth of Dominica have made a public commitment to support other countries to improve capacity to address epidemic threats by providing financing or support or to improve the country's domestic capacity to address epidemic threats by expanding financing or requesting support to improve capacity. The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [1] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations, United Nations, and WHO do not contain additional information regarding a public commitment to support other countries to improve capacity to address epidemic threats by providing financing or support or to improve the country's domestic capacity to address epidemic threats by expanding financing or requesting support to improve capacity. [2, 3, 4, 5]

[1] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations. 2021. "Contact". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/ministries/foreign-affairs-international-business-and-diaspora-relations>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] United Nations. 2021. "Search Results >> dominica". [<https://news.un.org/en/search/dominica>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] World Health Organization. 2021. "Search results". [<https://www.who.int/home/search?indexCatalogue=genericsearchindex1&searchQuery=dominica%20funding%20epidemic&wordsMode=AllWords&healthtopic=undefined&country=undefined>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

### 5.5.4b

Is there evidence that the country has, in the past three years, either:

- Provided other countries with financing or technical support to improve capacity to address epidemic threats?
- Requested financing or technical support from donors to improve the country's domestic capacity to address epidemic threats?

Needs to meet at least one of the criteria to be scored a 1 on this measure., Yes for both = 1, Yes for one = 1, No for both = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

In the Commonwealth of Dominica, there is public evidence that the country has, in the past three years, requested financing or technical support from donors to improve the country's domestic capacity to address epidemic threats. There is no public evidence that the country has, in the past three years, provided other countries with financing or technical support to improve capacity to address epidemic threats. In 2019, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) began implementation of a World Bank-financed Regional Health Project that includes Dominica. The project's activities include tasks to enhance public health surveillance at the national and regional levels as well as "Strengthening national and regional emergency management and response capacities to respond swiftly and effectively to outbreak threats". Dominica requested and obtained US\$6m to implement the project. [1] According to the Global Health Security Funding Tracking Dashboard, Dominica received US\$0.1m in 2019 and US\$0.3m in 2020 to improve its own domestic capacity to address epidemic threats, including funds from the World Health Organization for to reduce epidemic threats from malaria and polio. [2] In terms of supporting other countries, the Global Health Security Funding Tracking Dashboard does not list Dominica as a funder for any projects in other countries. [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [8] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations, United Nations, and WHO do not contain additional information regarding financing or technical support to other countries to improve capacity to address epidemic threats. [4, 5, 6, 7]

[1] Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States. 2021. "OECS Regional Health Project".

[<https://www.oecs.org/healthforum/index.php/projects/oecs-regional-health-project>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] GHS Tracking Dashboard. 2021. "Dominica Recipient Profile". [<https://tracking.ghscosting.org/details/929/recipient>]. Accessed 2 May 2021.

[3] GHS Tracking Dashboard. 2021. "Dominica Funder Profile". [<https://tracking.ghscosting.org/details/929/funder>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] United Nations. 2021. "Search Results >> dominica". [<https://news.un.org/en/search/dominica>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] World Health Organization. 2021. "Search results".

[<https://www.who.int/home/search?indexCatalogue=genericsearchindex1&searchQuery=dominica%20funding%20epidemic&wordsMode=AllWords&healthtopic=undefined&country=undefined>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[6] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. "Health Promotion Resource Centre". [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[7] Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business and Diaspora Relations. 2021. "Contact".

[<https://dominica.gov.dm/ministries/foreign-affairs-international-business-and-diaspora-relations>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[8] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. "Website Development Notice". [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

### 5.5.4c

Is there evidence that the country has fulfilled its full contribution to the WHO within the past two years?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

Economist Impact analyst qualitative assessment based on official national sources, which vary by country

## 5.6 COMMITMENT TO SHARING OF GENETIC AND BIOLOGICAL DATA AND SPECIMENS

### 5.6.1 Commitment to sharing genetic data, clinical specimens, and/or isolated specimens (biological materials) in both emergency and nonemergency research

#### 5.6.1a

Is there a publicly available plan or policy for sharing genetic data, clinical specimens, and/or isolated specimens (biological materials) along with the associated epidemiological data with international organizations and/or other countries that goes beyond influenza?

Yes = 1 , No = 0

Current Year Score: 0

There is no publicly available evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has a publicly available plan or policy for sharing genetic data, clinical specimens, and/or isolated specimens (biological materials) along with the associated epidemiological data with international organizations and/or other countries that goes beyond influenza. During the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic, the country has collaborated with the Caribbean Public Health Organization (CARPHA) on testing. [1] In addition, Dominica is “part of a network of sentinel countries reporting circulating influenza strains to CARPHA and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). [2] The website of the Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment (MOH) was under construction as of January 2021. [3] The websites of the MOH Health Promotion Unit and Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security do not contain additional information regarding a publicly available plan or policy for sharing genetic data, clinical specimens, and/or isolated specimens (biological materials) along with the associated epidemiological data with international organizations and/or other countries that goes beyond influenza. [4, 5] Dominica does not have a national laboratory system, public health institute, or ministry of research. [6]

[1] Dominica News Online. 2020. “Dominica is well-equipped and ready to test for coronavirus – Lab Superintendent”. [<https://dominicanewsonline.com/news/homepage/homepage-carousel/dominica-is-well-equipped-and-ready-to-test-for-coronavirus-lab-superintendent/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

[2] Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). 2018. “PAHO/WHO MULTI-COUNTRY COOPERATION STRATEGY FOR BARBADOS AND EASTERN CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES 2018-2024”. [<https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/272851/ccs-brb-2018-2024-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] Ministry of Health, Wellness and New Health Investment. 2021. “Website Development Notice”. [<http://health.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[4] Health Promotion Unit. 2021. “Health Promotion Resource Centre”. [<http://healthpromotion.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[5] Ministry of Blue and Green Economy, Agriculture and Food Security. 2021. “Home”. [<http://agriculture.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 27 January 2021.

[6] Commonwealth of Dominica. 2021. "Government of Dominica Web Portal". [<https://dominica.gov.dm/>]. Accessed 30 January 2021.

### 5.6.1b

**Is there public evidence that the country has not shared samples in accordance with the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) framework in the past two years?**

Yes = 0 , No = 1

**Current Year Score: 1**

In the Commonwealth of Dominica, there is no public evidence that the country has not shared samples in accordance with the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (PIP) framework in the past two years. The 2016 External Evaluation of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Partnership Contribution does not refer to Dominica not sharing samples, nor does it list Dominica as a priority country for improving the "national ability to detect, monitor and share novel influenza viruses". [1] The WHO's website does not contain any information regarding Dominica not sharing samples. [2] Local and international media do not contain reports of non-sharing.

[1] World Health Organization (WHO). 2016. "External Evaluation of the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Partnership Contribution—High-Level Implementation Plan 2013-2016".

[[http://www.who.int/about/evaluation/pip\\_evaluation\\_report.pdf](http://www.who.int/about/evaluation/pip_evaluation_report.pdf)]. Accessed 24 January 2021.

[2] World Health Organization (WHO). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.who.int/countries/dma/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

### 5.6.1c

**Is there public evidence that the country has not shared pandemic pathogen samples during an outbreak in the past two years?**

Yes = 0 , No = 1

**Current Year Score: 1**

There is no publicly available evidence that the Commonwealth of Dominica has not shared pandemic pathogen samples during an outbreak in the past two years. The World Health Organization does not mention that Dominica has not shared samples during an outbreak, including samples related to the COVID-19 pandemic. [1] Local and international media do not contain reports of non-sharing in Dominica, including samples related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[1] World Health Organization (WHO). 2021. "Dominica". [<https://www.who.int/countries/dma/>]. Accessed 28 January 2021.

## Category 6: Overall risk environment and vulnerability to biological threats

### 6.1 POLITICAL AND SECURITY RISK

#### 6.1.1 Government effectiveness

##### 6.1.1a

Policy formation (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 2

2020

Economist Intelligence

##### 6.1.1b

Quality of bureaucracy (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 2

2020

Economist Intelligence

##### 6.1.1c

Excessive bureaucracy/red tape (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 2

2020

Economist Intelligence

##### 6.1.1d

Vested interests/cronyism (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 2

2020

Economist Intelligence

### 6.1.1e

Country score on Corruption Perception Index (0-100, where 100=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 55

2020

Transparency International

### 6.1.1f

Accountability of public officials (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 2

2020

Economist Intelligence

### 6.1.1g

Human rights risk (Economist Intelligence score; 0-4, where 4=best)

Input number

Current Year Score: 2

2020

Economist Intelligence

## 6.1.2 Orderly transfers of power

### 6.1.2a

How clear, established, and accepted are constitutional mechanisms for the orderly transfer of power from one government to another?

Very clear, established and accepted = 4, Clear, established and accepted = 3, One of the three criteria (clear, established, accepted) is missing = 2, Two of the three criteria (clear, established, accepted) are missing = 1, Not clear, not established, not accepted = 0

Current Year Score: 2

2021

Economist Intelligence

### 6.1.3 Risk of social unrest

#### 6.1.3a

**What is the risk of disruptive social unrest?**

Very low: Social unrest is very unlikely = 4, Low: There is some prospect of social unrest, but disruption would be very limited = 3, Moderate: There is a considerable chance of social unrest, but disruption would be limited = 2, High: Major social unrest is likely, and would cause considerable disruption = 1, Very high: Large-scale social unrest on such a level as to seriously challenge government control of the country is very likely = 0

**Current Year Score: 2**

2021

Economist Intelligence

### 6.1.4 Illicit activities by non-state actors

#### 6.1.4a

**How likely is it that domestic or foreign terrorists will attack with a frequency or severity that causes substantial disruption?**

No threat = 4, Low threat = 3, Moderate threat = 2, High threat = 1, Very high threat = 0

**Current Year Score: 4**

2021

Economist Intelligence

#### 6.1.4b

**What is the level of illicit arms flows within the country?**

4 = Very high, 3 = High, 2 = Moderate, 1 = Low, 0 = Very low

**Current Year Score: 1**

2020

UN Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

#### 6.1.4c

**How high is the risk of organized criminal activity to the government or businesses in the country?**

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0

**Current Year Score: 2**

2021

Economist Intelligence



## 6.1.5 Armed conflict

### 6.1.5a

Is this country presently subject to an armed conflict, or is there at least a moderate risk of such conflict in the future?

No armed conflict exists = 4, Yes; sporadic conflict = 3, Yes; incursional conflict = 2, Yes, low-level insurgency = 1, Yes; territorial conflict = 0

Current Year Score: 4

2021

Economist Intelligence

## 6.1.6 Government territorial control

### 6.1.6a

Does the government's authority extend over the full territory of the country?

Yes = 1, No = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2021

Economist Intelligence

## 6.1.7 International tensions

### 6.1.7a

Is there a threat that international disputes/tensions could have a negative effect?

No threat = 4, Low threat = 3, Moderate threat = 2, High threat = 1, Very high threat = 0

Current Year Score: 3

2021

Economist Intelligence

## 6.2 SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

### 6.2.1 Literacy

#### 6.2.1a

Adult literacy rate, population 15+ years, both sexes (%)

Input number

Current Year Score: 93.7

2008-2018

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);  
The Economist Intelligence Unit

## 6.2.2 Gender equality

### 6.2.2a

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Gender Inequality Index score

Input number

**Current Year Score: 0.67**

2018

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); The Economist Intelligence Unit

## 6.2.3 Social inclusion

### 6.2.3a

Poverty headcount ratio at \$1.90 a day (2011 PPP) (% of population)

Input number

**Current Year Score: 1.1**

2008-2018

World Bank; Economist Impact

### 6.2.3b

Share of employment in the informal sector

Greater than 50% = 2, Between 25-50% = 1, Less than 25% = 0

**Current Year Score: 0**

There is limited publicly available evidence regarding the share of employment in the informal sector in the Commonwealth of Dominica. The Central Statistical Office did not include employment statistics or a measure of informal employment in its 2011 Population and Housing Census (the most recent). [1] The World Bank, ILO, and United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization databases do not provide evidence regarding the share of employment in the informal sector in Dominica. [2, 3, 4] Statistics from the 2017 Annual Report (most recent) of Dominica Social Security show that there were 1,574 unregistered individuals out of a total Active Population of 24,174 in 2017, equivalent to 6.5%. [5]

[1] Central Statistical Office. 2011. "2011 Population and Housing Census".

[[https://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/2011\\_census\\_report.pdf](https://dominica.gov.dm/images/documents/2011_census_report.pdf)]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[2] World Bank. 2021. "No data is available for the specified locations".

[<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SL.ISV.IFRM.ZS?locations=DM>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[3] International Labor Organization. 2021. "Country Profiles". [<https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/country-profiles/>]. Accessed 24 January 2021.

[4] United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization. 2021. "FAOSTAT Dominica".

[<http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#country/55>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

[5] Dominica Social Security. 2017. "2017 Annual Report". [<https://dss.dm/wp-content/uploads/DSS-Annual-Report-2017-web.pdf>]. Accessed 31 January 2021.

### 6.2.3c

#### Coverage of social insurance programs (% of population)

Scored in quartiles (0-3, where 3=best)

**Current Year Score: 2**

2016, or latest available

World Bank; Economist Impact calculations

## 6.2.4 Public confidence in government

### 6.2.4a

#### Level of confidence in public institutions

Input number

**Current Year Score: 1**

2021

Economist Intelligence Democracy Index

## 6.2.5 Local media and reporting

### 6.2.5a

Is media coverage robust? Is there open and free discussion of public issues, with a reasonable diversity of opinions?

Input number

**Current Year Score: 1**

2021

Economist Intelligence Democracy Index

## 6.2.6 Inequality

### 6.2.6a

#### Gini coefficient

Scored 0-1, where 0=best

**Current Year Score: 0.49**

Latest available.

World Bank; Economist Impact calculations

## 6.3 INFRASTRUCTURE ADEQUACY

### 6.3.1 Adequacy of road network

#### 6.3.1a

What is the risk that the road network will prove inadequate to meet needs?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0

Current Year Score: 2

2021

Economist Intelligence

### 6.3.2 Adequacy of airports

#### 6.3.2a

What is the risk that air transport will prove inadequate to meet needs?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0

Current Year Score: 1

2021

Economist Intelligence

### 6.3.3 Adequacy of power network

#### 6.3.3a

What is the risk that power shortages could be disruptive?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0

Current Year Score: 2

2021

Economist Intelligence

## 6.4 ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

### 6.4.1 Urbanization

#### 6.4.1a

Urban population (% of total population)

Input number

Current Year Score: 70.79

2019

World Bank

## 6.4.2 Land use

### 6.4.2a

Percentage point change in forest area between 2006–2016

Input number

Current Year Score: 0

2008-2018

World Bank; Economist Impact

## 6.4.3 Natural disaster risk

### 6.4.3a

What is the risk that the economy will suffer a major disruption owing to a natural disaster?

Very low = 4, Low = 3, Moderate = 2, High = 1, Very high = 0

Current Year Score: 0

2021

Economist Intelligence

## 6.5 PUBLIC HEALTH VULNERABILITIES

### 6.5.1 Access to quality healthcare

#### 6.5.1a

Total life expectancy (years)

Input number

Current Year Score: 77.4

2018

United Nations; World Bank, UNICEF; Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME); Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)  
World Factbook

#### 6.5.1b

Age-standardized NCD mortality rate (per 100 000 population)

Input number

Current Year Score: 475.78

2019

WHO

### **6.5.1c**

**Population ages 65 and above (% of total population)**

Input number

Current Year Score: 12.12

2019

World Bank

### **6.5.1d**

**Prevalence of current tobacco use (% of adults)**

Input number

Current Year Score: 14.78

2018

World Bank

### **6.5.1e**

**Prevalence of obesity among adults**

Input number

Current Year Score: 27.9

2016

WHO

## **6.5.2 Access to potable water and sanitation**

### **6.5.2a**

**Percentage of homes with access to at least basic water infrastructure**

Input number

Current Year Score: 96.0

2017

UNICEF; Economist Impact

### 6.5.2b

**Percentage of homes with access to at least basic sanitation facilities**

Input number

**Current Year Score: 87.06**

2017

UNICEF; Economist Impact

## 6.5.3 Public healthcare spending levels per capita

### 6.5.3a

**Domestic general government health expenditure per capita, PPP (current international \$)**

Input number

**Current Year Score: 460.32**

2018

WHO Global Health Expenditure database

## 6.5.4 Trust in medical and health advice

### 6.5.4a

**Trust medical and health advice from the government**

Share of population that trust medical and health advice from the government , More than 80% = 2, Between 60-80%, or no data available = 1, Less than 60% = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

2018

Wellcome Trust Global Monitor 2018

### 6.5.4b

**Trust medical and health advice from medical workers**

Share of population that trust medical and health advice from health professionals , More than 80% = 2, Between 60-80%, or no data available = 1, Less than 60% = 0

**Current Year Score: 1**

2018

Wellcome Trust Global Monitor 2018