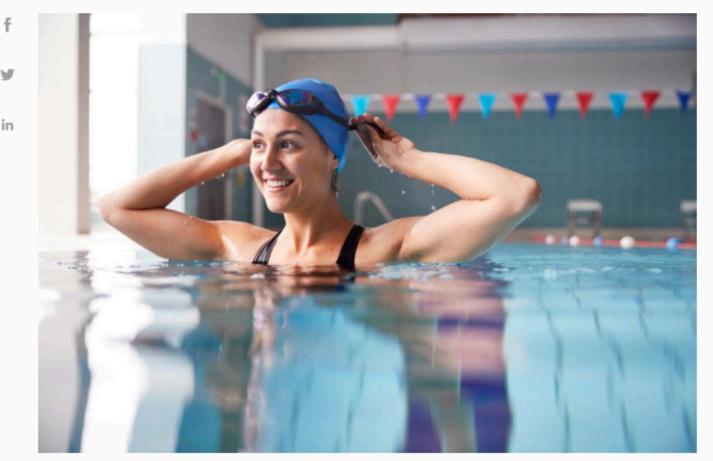
Can COVID-19 Coronavirus Live In Water? What About Drinking Water And Swimming



Bruce Y. Lee Senior Contributor 🛈

Healthcare

I am a writer, journalist, professor, systems modeler, computational and digital health expert, avocado-eater, and entrepreneur, not always in that order.



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National

Americans are told to wash hands to fight coronavirus. But some don't trust the tap.



Cassandra Chavez, 19, had a lung condition in her early teens. The Chavez family suspects that the ailment was caused by the nitrate-contaminated well water at their small ranch. (Melina Mara/The Washington Post)

By Frances Stead Sellers

Use the COVID-19 crisis to fix the water crisis

COVID-19 and Water Quality GEO CoP Telecon on May 19th

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BY SETH M. SIEGEL, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR - 05/18/20 07:00 PM EDT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL

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America's tap water is an essential part of the nation's health infrastructure. Although delivery of that water is now under stress because of the coronavirus crisis, it also presents a once-in-ageneration opportunity to significantly improve our drinking water.

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Sewage testing, successfully used by Israel to head off polio outbreak in 2013, is a cheap, effective way to detect an outbreak even before the first cases are clinically confirmed

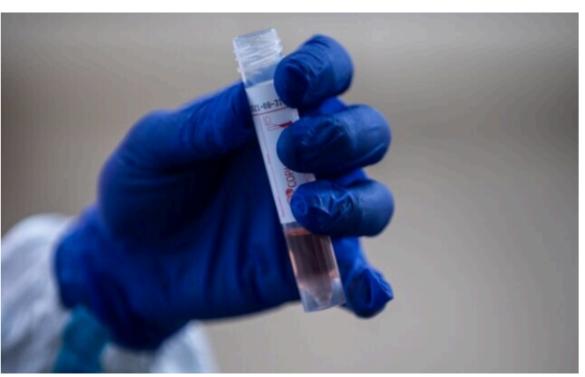
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By AMÉLIE BOTTOLLIER-DEPOIS 28 April 2020, 9:35 pm | 0



A doctor holds a container used to collect a sample from a patient during a demonstration of a drive-through polymerase chain reaction (PCR) swab test for the COVID-19 coronavirus in Fujisawa in Kanagawa prefecture, southwest of Tokyo, Japan, on April 27, 2020. (Philip Fong/AFP)

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Talking points for Discussion:

Role of water quality in the coronavirus pandemic

- Can coronavirus spread through drinking water?
- How safe is swimming in recreational facilities?
- Can the virus spread through wastewater?

Safe water access for vulnerable communities

- Many water utilities are understaffed
- Maintenance work is difficult in lockdown
- Many communities are already water starved

Implications for the Global South

- Populations with insufficient safe water access
- Cities that produce untreated wastewater effluents

Developing early warning in anticipation of second wave

- Can Earth Observations-based tools or indices help?
- How can geoscientists and health professionals inform?
- Can we identify vulnerable communities ahead of outbreaks?
- Can wastewater testing help detect community level infection?

Useful resources:

WHO: WASH and Waste Management for the COVID-19 virus

file:///Users/asa/Downloads/WHO-2019-nCoV-IPC_WASH-2020.3-eng.pdf

Water and COVID-19 FAQs https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/water.html

Recent news articles:

Use the COVID-19 crisis to fix the water crisis https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/498343-use-the-covid-19-crisis-to-fix-the-water-crisis

Can COVID-19 Coronavirus Live In Water?

https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucelee/2020/05/03/can-covid-19-coronavirus-live-in-water-what-about-drinking-water-and-swimming/#5eea2aff4360

Waste not: Poop will be key in mitigating a second wave of coronavirus

https://www.timesofisrael.com/waste-not-poop-will-be-key-in-mitigating-a-second-wave-of-coronavirus/

Americans are told to wash hands to fight coronavirus. But some don't trust the tap

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/americans-are-told-to-wash-hands-to-fight-coronavirus-but-some-dont-trust-the-tap