

WEEKLY COVID-19 UPDATE

The latest news summarized from



European Union & World

ITALY BLOCKS THE EXPORT OF 250,000 DOSES OF THE ASTRAZENECA VACCINE TO AUSTRALIA

BRAZIL'S DAILY COVID-RELATED DEATHS REACH ALL-TIME HIGH

ALARM ABOUT THE SLOWER PACE OF THE VACCINE ROLLOUT IN THE IRISH REPUBLIC.

Austria

OXFORD/ASTRAZENECA VACCINE BATCH SUSPENDED IN AUSTRIA AFTER DEATH

AUSTRIA AND DENMARK TO WORK WITH ISRAEL ON FUTURE COVID VACCINATIONS

SCIENTISTS WANT TO INOCULATE EVERY ADULT IN SCHWAZ DISTRICT TO FURTHER UNDERSTAND VARIANTS

AUSTRIA

Active Cases: 476,980

Recovered Cases: 445,032

Deaths: 8,732

Hospitalised: 1,522

In Intensive Care: 331

New infections: 1,910

AUSTRIA

Austrian authorities have suspended a batch of the Oxford/AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccine as a "precautionary measure" while they investigate a person's death and another's illness after taking the vaccine. The Federal Office for Safety in Health Care (BASG) has received two reports in a temporal connection with a vaccination from the same batch of the AstraZeneca vaccine in the district clinic of Zwettl.

Austria and Denmark is to work with Israel on future Covid vaccines, saying the EU is 'too slow'. Austrian chancellor Kurz, says the two nations 'will no longer rely on EU' as he unveils this manufacturing deal to tackle new variants.

AUSTRIA

Scientists want to inoculate every adult in the Schwaz district near Innsbruck, in a real-world test of how the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine works against the variant first seen in South Africa.

Starting this week, everyone aged 16 and older in the Schwaz district will be eligible for free shots of the vaccine from Pfizer-BioNTech, as part of the unique drive to learn more about fighting the variant.

EUROPEAN UNION

Denmark has followed France and Germany in approving the Oxford/AstraZeneca vaccine for over-65s.

The EU's internal market commissioner, Thierry Breton has accepted the use of Chinese and Russian vaccines by EU countries, if they so choose.

By summer, France aims to have vaccinated two-thirds of its adult population, some 30m people.

In Germany, there is concern that only two of the 16 states have reduced their infection rate to below the official target of 50 per 100,000.

GLOBAL

Brazil's health ministry says more than 260,000 people have died with Covid-19, the second-highest pandemic death toll in the world after the US.

Australia has asked the European Commission to review Italy's decision to block the export of 250,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine to the country. Australia however said losing "one shipment" would not badly affect its rollout.

President Biden's covid relief bill has cleared a major hurdle. The \$1.9tn (£1.4tn) plan was approved in the Senate on Saturday despite every Republican senator voting against it.