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TESTING UPDATE

We are pleased to inform you that testing is going on at a steady pace. Until the 12th of March, we have tested 12,500 children in Church Schools and State Schools. We are so proud of all students taking part in the testing and as a giveaway they are getting a nice reusable mask to help contain virus spread!! For those Church Schools where testing was done before January 2021, a delivery of masks is planned once the schools are open again.



CHURCH SCHOOLS UPDATE

Testing in all Church Schools has been completed by end of January 2021.

All children from Church schools (tested between November 2020 and January 2021) whose tests resulted positive have been contacted for a follow up by Mater Dei Hospital. All the other children attending Church Schools that were not contacted by Mater Dei until today have resulted negative to the test and will not be followed up.



STATE SCHOOLS UPDATE

Testing in State schools has started in February 2021 and is progressing at a steady pace. Appointments with almost all the primary and middle schools have been set up already. We are looking forward to visiting all the schools and test all the children with a valid consent form / symptoms questionnaire as indicated below:

Interreg Italia-Malta ITAMA

PART II: Certificate of Consent

Certificate of Consent

I have been invited to allow my child to participate in a research on coeliac disease. I have read the foregoing information, or it has been read to me. I had the opportunity to ask questions about it, which have been answered to my satisfaction. I consent voluntarily for my child to participate in this study.

Name of School _____

Name of Boy/Girl _____

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____

Date _____
Day/month/year

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
DATE OF TEST: _____
ATTACH THE STICKER BELOW:

Interreg Italia-Malta ITAMA

Questionnaire to be filled in by parent/legal guardian of child and returned to school

Child Name & Surname _____

Child ID number _____ Gender Male ☐ Female ☐

School _____

Class (Grade/Year) _____ Date of Birth _____

Town/Village of Residence _____ Contact number _____

Ethnicity (tick as appropriate) European/Caucasian ☐ African ☐ Asian ☐ Other: _____

Tick ✓ if your child has or ever had any of the following medical conditions:

| | YES | NO | DONT KNOW | | YES | NO | DONT KNOW |
|--|-----|----|-----------|---|-----|----|-----------|
| 1. Persistently tired/weak/low energy | | | | 13. Repeatedly complains of abdominal pain | | | |
| 2. Immunodeficiency | | | | 14. Thyroid problems | | | |
| 3. Vomiting (more than 1 episode per month in last 3 months) | | | | 15. Abdominal distension / bloating, flatulence | | | |
| 4. Liver problems | | | | 16. Irregular bowel habits | | | |
| 5. Diabetes type 1 | | | | 17. Alopecia (hair loss) | | | |
| 6. Anaemia (pallor, low blood level) | | | | 18. Vitiligo (white skin patches) | | | |
| 7. Rheumatoid Arthritis | | | | 19. Down's, Williams or Turner's syndrome | | | |
| 8. Renal problems | | | | 20. Recurrent mouth ulcers | | | |
| 9. Epilepsy | | | | 21. Difficulty with balance/walking | | | |
| 10. Severe dental decay | | | | 22. Poor weight gain, anorexia, weight loss | | | |
| 11. Mood changes | | | | 23. Short stature/growth failure | | | |
| 12. Persistent loose stools | | | | 24. Weak bones | | | |
| | | | | 25. Constipation | | | |

Does any family relative suffer from Coeliac Disease?
YES ☐ NO ☐ DONT KNOW ☐

If yes, please specify the relationship to the child:
Father ☐ Mother ☐ Sister/brother ☐ Maternal Grandfather ☐ Maternal Grandmother ☐
Paternal Grandfather ☐ Paternal Grandmother ☐ Other: _____

thank you

ITAMA would like to thank all the collaborators for the support given in this testing phase:

#Ministry for Education and the Secretariat for Catholic Education for welcoming this project in all their schools

#MUMN for the organisation of testing shifts and all the professional nurses doing the testing and providing a sterling service to all students

#School Management Teams who are taking care of all the logistic needs inside the schools

#Parents who are giving their consent for their children to be tested

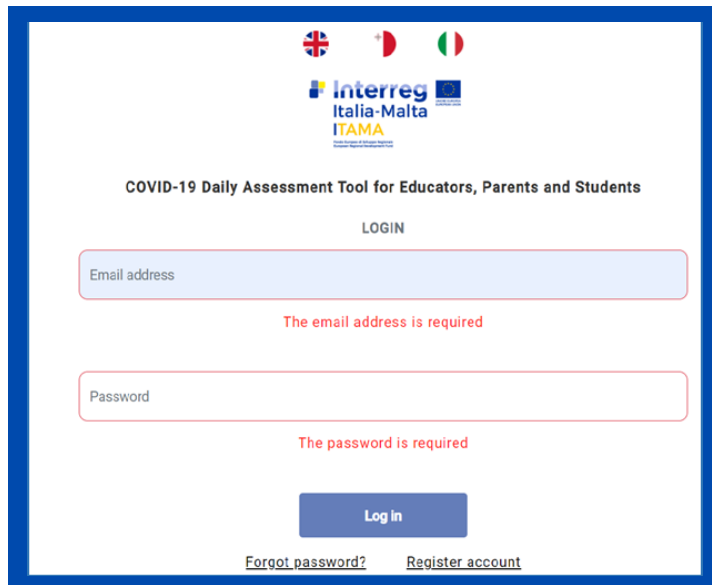
#Students who are really brave and collaborative while they are being tested



COVID-19 CRISIS – ITAMA’S BIT FOR THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

We are happy to announce that the COVID-19 Daily Assessment Application was endorsed by both the Superintendence of Health and the Ministry for Education in Malta. It has been launched and we encourage you to start using it by following this link. The tool will help you identify whether your children are showing any symptoms that might be related to COVID and which actions to take.

<https://covid.itamaproject.eu/en/>



Register today for a free account and choose your correct profile. Once your profile is setup including the names of your children/students, you may start using the tool daily without the need to enter children's/students' data again.

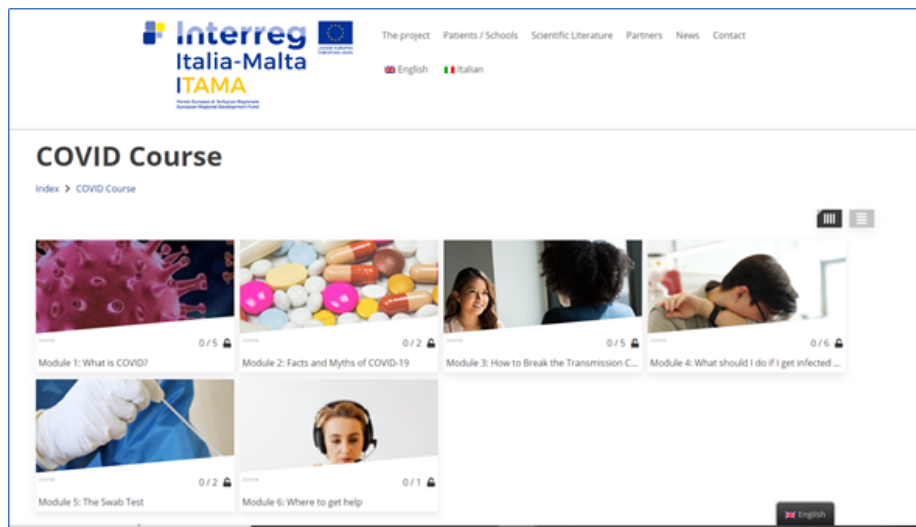
STEP 2:

We are almost ready to launch our eLearning platform, which will consist of 6 different modules and serves as a guide on the symptoms, the transmission, the prevention and the behaviour in the presence of COVID-19.

- What is COVID-19
- Facts and Myths of COVID-19
- How to Break the Transmission Chains
- What should I do if I get infected with COVID-19?
- The Swab test
- Useful sources of Information

Every module will end with a short quiz to help the users confirm their level of understanding. The platform will also contain a video repository with videos related to COVID-19. Registration for the eLearning will be free of charge and available for everyone.





Next Steps

Schools are currently closed but we are hanging right there. We have everything ready to continue testing when schools are open again.

Once we launch the eLearning platform, we shall proceed with upgrading the Daily Assessment Tool with some new added functions so stay tuned because we ain't done yet!!!

Follow closely our social media accounts and our website's News section as we will soon give you more news about the online platform!



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MINISTRY FOR HEALTH

