

NCDs on the pandemic frontline

Language English

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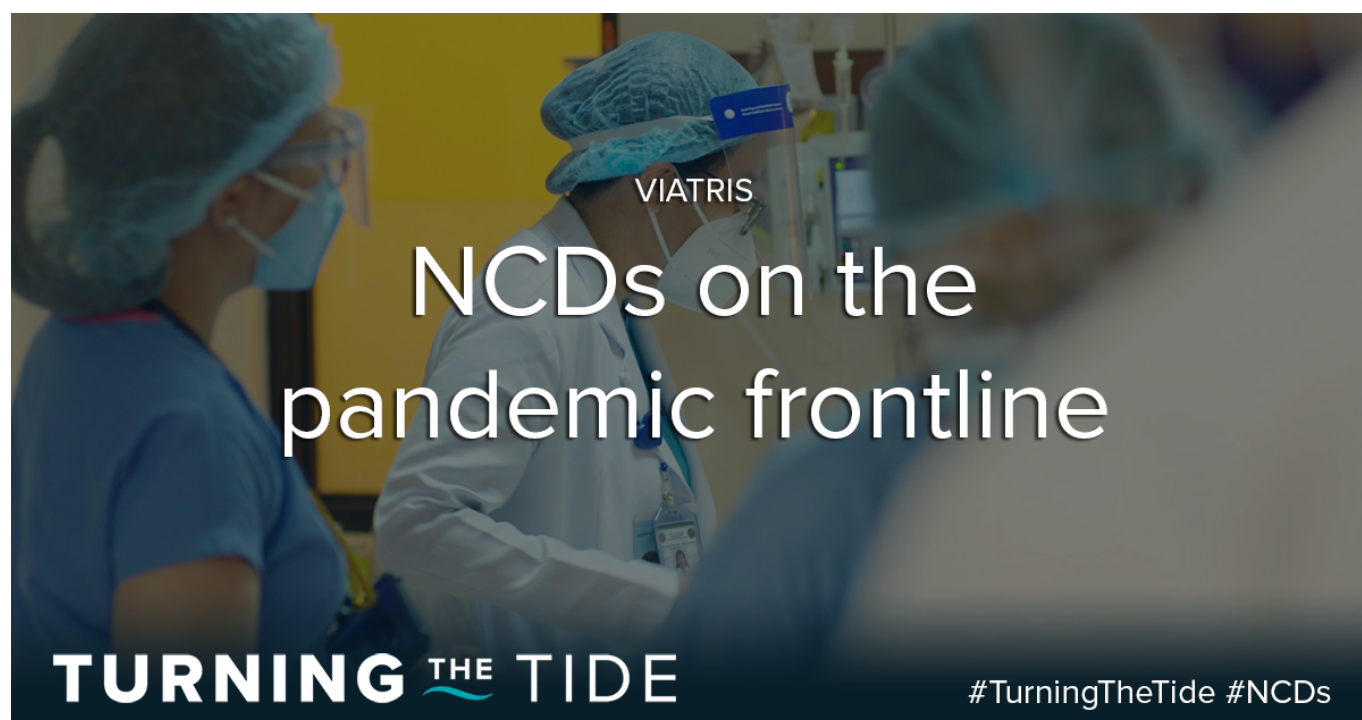
'[NCDs on the pandemic frontline](#) [1]' highlights the devastating impact COVID-19 has had on health systems and people living with noncommunicable diseases.

People living with noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) have faced major challenges during the pandemic such as disruptions to essential care and treatment. Coupled with the fear to visit hospitals, this has left many people living with NCDs isolated and marginalised.

[According to the World Health Organization \(WHO\)'s Rapid assessment of service delivery for NCDs during the COVID-19 pandemic](#) [2], 59% of countries reported that access to essential NCD services were disrupted.

Those with NCDs are also most at risk of severe COVID-19. This micro-documentary shares the experience of frontline health workers in the Philippines and the UK, working to protect and support those at risk. It also tells the story of Rolando Tobasa Jr. Roland lives with asthma and tested positive for COVID-19. He shares the difficulties he faced to receive life-saving care.

"I've worked as a nurse for 20 years and the pandemic has been the most challenging period of my career to date" said **Gerry Fitzgerald O'Connor**, a nurse working at Chelsea and Westminster Hospital in London, who is featured in this mini-film.



[1]

[Watch NCDs on the pandemic frontline](#) [3]

This mini-film has been produced by [BBC StoryWorks](#) [4], thanks to NCD Alliance's partnership with [Viatris](#) [5].

Post Date: Tuesday, 16 March, 2021

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[COVID-19 and Noncommunicable Diseases \(NCDs\): Questions and Answers](#) [12]

Related Content: [Statement by Katie Dain on WHO rapid assessment of service delivery for NCDs during COVID-19](#) [13]

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