The lack of protection against non-communicable diseases (NCDs) has left populations ill-equipped to fight COVID-19. Many countries have fallen behind in preventing, screening and treating (NCDs). Mounting evidence highlights the increased risk of a severe COVID-19 infection for people living with NCDs. WHO and the United Nations are releasing new documents highlighting ways governments can address NCDs in their COVID-19 recovery plans and reduce premature mortality.

**Speakers:**
- Dr Bente Mikkelsen, Director of Noncommunicable Diseases, WHO (in the room)
- Dr Nick Banatvala, Head of Secretariat, United Nations Task Force on Noncommunicable Diseases (online)