INSTRUCTIONS FOR SELECTED PUBLIC ACTIVITIES/WORK SETTINGS
FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF COVID-19

The instruction notes are given for a range of public activities and work settings. Some sectors such as tourism, large shopping malls, event management, etc. would require reference to several instruction notes.

The Instructions are subject to overall permission given by the Ministry of Health to resume functions (totally/selected).

Each instruction note is issued by the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medical Services and are for the establishment/owner/responsible authority to follow in prevention of transmission of COVID-19.
17. Weddings in hotels/ reception halls

Under the present situation in response to COVID 19 the number of guests must be minimized to be able to maintain physical distancing.

Specific message/Instruction/s

The Hotel management/ Management of the Reception Hall

- should indicate to the client about the restriction on the number of guests. The number of participants should be 50% of the seating capacity of the hall up to a maximum of 100.
- should request that it is the client’s responsibility to inform their guests that they are excused from attending if feeling unwell.
- Adequate physical distancing should be maintained between the different action areas in the event - poruwa, registration, tables and chairs, buffet areas.
- The number of guests permitted should be calculated by the management based on the space of the reception hall adhering to the one meter distancing. Seating and walking space should be considered.
- Improve ventilation; ensure the normal operation of the AC with sufficient intake of fresh air from outside.
- Seating arrangement should adopt the one metre policy.
- Hand wash facilities should be provided before entering the premises.
- Hand sanitizer bottles can be kept in several places at the reception.
- Food will be served by a dedicated staff at buffet. No self-servicing is allowed.
- At the time of making bookings for receptions an instruction sheet with the current rules should be provided to the client.
- Encourage all visitors to wear masks.
- Discourage having dancing floors as it is not possible to maintain safe distance with each other.
- Allow only the bride and the groom to enter the dancing floor.
- A dancing group can be allowed under the restrictions with the maximum of 4 people and they should be advised to use of their personal makeups.
- Do not permit the consumption of liquor.
- Appoint a health and safety officer for each wedding and encourage him to liaise with the clients during preparations for the event.
- Announce the COVID-19 preventive measures at the beginning and during the wedding reception.
- Clean & disinfect the hall soon after the function.
- You are required to fill the provided Assurance form, indicating compliance with the instructions given. The original of the Assurance form should be submitted to the area Medical Officer of Health. A copy of the same should be sent to the local government authority (municipal council/ urban council/ pradeshiya sabha) and another copy should be kept with you. The owner/ employer/ manager of the organization/ premises is responsible to ensure that the above guidelines are strictly adhered to.

For the client

- it is the client’s responsibility to verify the health status of guests prior to the date and confirm on their attendance.
- Shaking hands and hugs to be avoided.

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- All arrangements should take note that adequate spacing should be provided for movement of people being able to keep one metre distance when they move about.
- Guests are encouraged to wear their face masks

Methods of instruction

- The Government should announce that the wedding receptions have limitations on number of guests until further notice
- All hotels to give instructions to clients at the time of making bookings
- All hotels to display the new normalcy until further notice

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Director General of Health Services

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