

**To:** 5.1.2e | 5.1.2e | @rivm.nl]; 5.1.2e | 5.1.2e | @rivm.nl]  
**From:** 5.1.2e  
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EWRS Italian team

The President of the Council issued a decree on 4th of March 2020 to update public health measures at national level.

The decree indicates measures to be implemented all over the entire country.

Measures described in the Decree 01/03/2020 for:

- the Municipalities of the red zone where the local transmission started (Lombardy Region: Bertonico; Casalpusterlengo; Castelgerundo; Castiglione D'Adda; Codogno; Fombio; Maleo; San Fiorano; Somaglia; Terranova dei Passerini; Veneto Region: Vo')

- for Emilia Romagna, Lombardy and Veneto regions and in the Province of Pesaro and Urbino (Marche Region), in the province of Savona (Liguria Region),

- in the provinces of Bergamo, Lodi, Cremona (Lombardy Region) and in the province of Piacenza (Emilia Romagna Region),

are still valid and additional to the measures indicated in the present Decree.

1. Public Health response to mitigate the spread of the virus at national level (in the entire Italian territory) according to the decree on 4th of March 2020

- suspension of congresses, meetings, social events;
- suspension of events and shows, including cinema and theatre, unless social distancing can be guaranteed;
- suspension of sport matches and competitions of any discipline, in public and private places; nevertheless it is allowed the training of competitive athletes in sport facilities behind closed doors, or in open spaces but without the presence of supporters. Sport activities in general, in gyms, swimming pools and sport centres of all types are allowed only if social distancing is guaranteed;
- until the 15th of March 2020 all school activities are suspended (from kindergarten to University) except e-learning activities;
- suspension of study visits;
- a person accompanying a patient in the Emergency Department, cannot stay in the waiting room;
- visits to patients in nursing homes and hospices is limited;
- smart working is encouraged and can be implemented in derogation of existing rules;
- Local Health Agencies will support the Ministry of Justice, to guarantee new admissions to penitentiaries and juvenile penal institutions;

2. Information and preventive measures (in the entire Italian territory) according to the decree on 4th of March 2020

- all health personnel must implement preventive measures and sanitization according to the procedures established by the Ministry of Health;
- all elderly people and people with underlying medical conditions are strongly encouraged to remain in their household;
- information on preventive measures are affixed at school and in public offices open to the public;
- Majors and associations should promote a correct information on preventive measures;
- Municipalities are encouraged to offer individual recreational activities, mostly in open space;
- public administrations, in all rooms open to the public, must provide appropriate disinfectant products for hand cleaning;
- in public and private competitions, social distancing must be guaranteed;
- extraordinary sanitization must be implemented on public transports;
- whoever entered in Italy in the 14 days preceding the publication of this decree, after residing in areas at epidemiological risk, as identified by WHO, or transited or stayed in the Municipalities of the red zone MUST inform his/her General Practitioner, Paediatrician and the competent Public Health Services for the application of the public health protocol.

The Public Health officer will prescribe home isolation and will:

- \* collect information by phone on travel itinerary;
- \* inform on preventive measures;
- \* inform the General Practitioner, Paediatrician;
- \* ascertain the body temperature and the presence of any sign or symptoms;
- \* inform on COVID-19 symptoms, transmission, preventive measure;
- \* inform on the need to measure the body temperature twice/day;
- \* inform on the period of isolation of 14 days from the last exposure;

- \* inform to avoid social contacts and travelling;
- \* inform on the obligation to remain reachable for surveillance activities;
- \* call the person each day to check his/her health;
- \* in case of symptoms, organize the transfer to a health facility.

If developing symptoms, the person must:

- \* immediately inform the General Practitioner or the Paediatrician and the Public Health officer;
- \* wear a medical mask
- \* stay in his/her room with the door closed, waiting for the transfer to a health facility.

All over the country, the following preventive measures are recommended:

- a) wash your hand often. In all public places, gyms, supermarkets, pharmacies and other gathering places, alcohol based hand rub should be available;
- b) avoid close contact with people suffering of acute respiratory illness;
- c) avoid hand shaking and hugs;
- d) maintain social distancing (at least 1 meter);
- e) respiratory hygiene (when coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose with tissue avoiding the contact with hands and respiratory fluids)
- f) avoid sharing bottle and glassed, especially when practicing sports;
- g) avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth;
- h) when coughing and sneezing cover mouth and nose;
- i) don't take antiviral drugs or antibiotics without prescription;
- j) clean surfaces with chlorinated or alcoholic solutions;
- k) use the medical mask only if you suspect to be ill or if you assist an ill-person.