Joint Annual Meeting 2021

Swiss Society for Infectious Diseases SSI
Swiss Society for Hospital Hygiene SSHH
Swiss Society of Tropical Medicine and Parasitology SSTMP
Swiss Society of Tropical and Travel Medicine SSTTM

September 2-3, 2021 | 2m2c Montreux Music & Convention Centre

COVID-19 PROTECTION CONCEPT
Joint Annual Meeting 2021 – September 2-3, 2021, Montreux

Introduction

The health and safety of our attendees, speakers, exhibitors and employees is paramount. In close consultation with the 2m2c Montreux Music & Convention Centre, IMK AG has devised a protection concept which complies with the actual Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) stipulations and has caused the measures set out in the protection concept to be implemented.

The aim of all the measures is to protect all participants, speakers and exhibitors, as well as the teams of IMK AG and the 2m2c Montreux Music & Convention Centre (2m2c), as much as possible from infection with novel coronavirus.

Swiss COVID certificate

All persons (participants, speakers, industry partners, stand constructors, congress center staff, IMK staff) who enter the building of 2m2c during the annual congress must be able to present a valid Swiss COVID certificate. This will be checked at the entrance.

The COVID certificate provides **documentary evidence** of:

- **recovery**: must have been no longer than 6 months ago
- **vaccination:** completed for at least 14 days is necessary
- **tested**: a PCR test must not be older than 72 hours, an antigen test not older than 48 hours. Please note that after the expiration of the validity period a new test must be submitted on the third day.

Information for international participants

All persons arriving from an **EU country** can show their valid EU certificate. This will be accepted.
All persons arriving from a **non-EU country** must present a negative test result.

Basic rules of the protection concept

The protection concept ensures that the following requirements are met. Sufficient and appropriate measures are provided for each of these requirements.

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1. Hand hygiene and protection masks

Measures

- It is recommended to wear a protection mask indoors.
- Participants are asked to disinfect their hands with hand disinfectant when entering the event premises. Dispensers with disinfectant are available at all times.
- All persons in the 2m2c are asked to clean their hands regularly.

2. Cleaning

Regular cleaning of surfaces and objects after use is granted, especially if they are touched by several people.

Measures

- Surfaces with which participants come into contact are regularly disinfected.
- If possible, doors remain permanently open.
- A regular and sufficient ventilation is guaranteed.
- Soap dispensers, hand disinfectants, disposable towels and detergents (for objects and/or surfaces) are refilled regularly.
- Sufficient cleaning personnel and materials are provided to implement the defined hygiene measures.
- E-poster screens are regularly disinfected.

3. General information about the congress

Taking into account specific aspects of work and work situations in order to to ensure protection.

3.1. Registration

Measures

- **All people who enter the building must have a valid COVID certificate.**
- All participants have to register in advance on the congress website.
- Participants are informed in advance that on-site registrations at the congress secretariat are not possible.
- The participation fee must be paid in advance. IMK AG reserves the right to send payment reminders to the participants.
- On site, only card payments are possible. Cash is not accepted.
- Participants receive their badge on site. A self-check-in will be offered.

3.2. Congress programme

Measures

- The programme of the annual meeting can be viewed on the congress website. A printed version of the final congress programme is available on site.

3.3. Cloakroom & luggage drop-off

Measures

- If possible, employees shall not touch any objects belonging to the guests; this rule also applies to clothes. Coat racks are provided for self-service to the guests. It is recommended, however, to keep your personal belongings with you.
- For hygienic reasons, no coat hangers are handed out.

3.4. Toilets

There are sufficient toilet facilities available at the 2m2c Montreux.

Measures

- In toilet facilities that do not have automatic doors, the doors are left open, if possible.
- Toilets are regularly cleaned and disinfected. There will be a cleaning protocol.

4. Exhibition: Requirements / Measures

The exhibition plan was approved by the 2m2c.

Measures

- Everyone from the industry and the booth constructers need to own a valid COVID certificate.
- Exhibition spaces are marked by the 2m2c. The dimensions must be respected.
- Exhibitors are required to regularly disinfect objects on their booth. Booth cleaning can be ordered from the 2m2c (via the form in the exhibition manual or on the 2m2c website).
- When handing out give-aways, food or catering, the specific hygiene measures in accordance with the current FOPH regulations must be followed. The implementation of the rules is the responsibility of the exhibitor.

5. Catering

There will not be any restrictions in the catering area because all participants and catering staff will own their valid COVID certificate.

6. Lecture rooms

During all events it is recommended to wear a mask.

7. Information

Employees and other affected persons are informed about the guidelines and measures.

Measures

- IMK AG sufficiently points out the valid travel regulations of the federal government (railway, public transport) in advance.
- Posters with behavioral guidelines for COVID-19 will be placed in the congress venue to raise the awareness of participants.
- 2m2c and IMK AG draw the attention of the participants to the hygiene and protection measure

(July 28, 2021 – subject to modifications)