

Tighter Covid-19 measures: What you need to know

Amid the growing KTV cluster, Singapore is tightening some Covid-19 measures. **Rei Kurohi** looks at the key announcements.



Two-person limit on dining in for some groups

- From next Monday till Aug 8, the cap for dining in at F&B outlets will be cut to two, from five, for those who have not been fully vaccinated, unless they have a valid negative pre-event test (PET) result. The two-person cap will apply at hawker centres, foodcourts and coffee shops.
- Those who have received the second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna vaccines at least two weeks ago are considered fully vaccinated and will be allowed to continue dining together in groups of five at F&B establishments with systems in place to check the vaccination status of patrons.
- Those who have recovered from Covid-19 in the past 270 days, as well as children aged 12 and below, who are not eligible for vaccination, may also join such groups of up to five.
- Meanwhile, cinemas can allow groups of five if no food and drinks are served.

Who can and cannot dine together from July 19?



Can this group dine together?

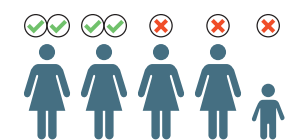


- Up to 2 individuals, regardless of vaccine status



NO; the unvaccinated adults – including those who had just one dose of vaccine – cannot join the group

- 3 fully vaccinated adults
- 2 unvaccinated or partially vaccinated adults



YES; everyone in this group is eligible to dine in groups of up to five

- 2 fully vaccinated adults
- 1 adult who recovered from Covid-19 in the last 270 days
- 1 unvaccinated adult with a valid negative PET result
- 1 child



NO; the unvaccinated adult cannot join the group

- 1 fully vaccinated adult
- 1 unvaccinated or partially vaccinated adult
- 1 child



YES; if all diners are from the same household and all adults involved are fully vaccinated, up to four children can join the group

- 1 fully vaccinated adult
- Up to 4 children
- All the diners are from the same household



NO; they present the same risk as 5 unvaccinated adults

- 5 children



NO; if diners are not all from the same household, unvaccinated children aged 12 and below cannot constitute more than half the group

- 2 fully vaccinated adults
- 3 children
- The diners are from different households



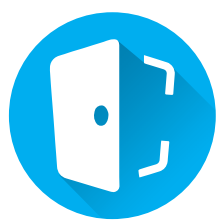
YES; the children do not constitute more than half the group, so this is allowed

- 2 fully vaccinated adults
- 2 children
- The diners are from different households



Nightlife establishments-turned-F&B businesses' operations suspended

- A number of clusters have been detected at karaoke lounges and nightclubs that had pivoted to operate as food and beverage establishments.
- All nightlife establishments that were allowed to operate as F&B establishments – more than 400 of them – have had their operations suspended until the end of the month.
- Inspections will be conducted to ensure safe management protocols are being properly implemented before they are allowed to resume operations.



Aggressive ring-fencing of cases, potential contacts

- Those identified as having visited hot spots at the same time as a confirmed Covid-19 case will receive an SMS health-risk warning. They will be legally required to get tested at a designated centre and self-isolate until they receive a negative result.
- They must also limit their interactions with others for 14 days from their last exposure, and undergo a second test at the end of this period.
- Health-risk alerts will also be sent to those who visited the locations with nightlife establishments operating as F&B outlets. This group of people will be encouraged to monitor their health as a precaution and go for a free swab test.



No changes for wedding receptions

- Wedding receptions can continue at the current group size of up to five people per table, without the requirement for all individuals in the group to be fully vaccinated.
- Pre-event testing (PET) will still be required for all attendees for events with up to 250 attendees. If the event has up to 50 attendees, only the wedding party, which usually consists of the couple and their bridesmaids and groomsmen, has to undergo PET.



Cap on indoor sports activities reduced to two, with class size of up to 30

- The cap on group sizes for high-intensity activities that involve participants removing their masks will be reduced from five to two, with classes capped at 30 people in total, including the instructor, down from 50.
- The group size cap will remain at five if all individuals in the class are vaccinated, recovered or have a valid negative Covid-19 test result.
- There is no change for outdoor activities, which remain capped at groups of five, with classes of up to 50 people. Activities that involve children aged 12 and below will remain capped at groups of two, with class sizes of up to 30.



Ban on social gatherings at workplaces

- Social and recreational gatherings at workplaces will no longer be allowed from next Monday to Aug 8 and any work-related events that take place in person should continue to not have food and drinks served.
- Working from home remains the default arrangement.



Further extension of Jobs Support Scheme

- The 10 per cent wage support under the Jobs Support Scheme (JSS) will be extended for affected sectors from July 26 till Aug 8. This is because tightened safe management measures will remain in place until then.
- Eligible businesses include licensed F&B businesses, gyms, fitness studios, performing arts organisations and arts education centres.
- Self-employed hawkers in hawker centres managed by the National Environment Agency (NEA), or which are operated by NEA-appointed operators, will also get a one-month extension of rental waivers and fee subsidies for table cleaning and dishwashing services.