

# Operational guidelines on preparedness and response for COVID-19 outbreak for work settings

## Barber salons and Beauty Salons

**Important:** Prior permission is needed from the area MOH to start a barber or beauty salon please refer to the health Ministry circular No. 02-27/2020 issued on 09.05.2020 which can be downloaded from the following link [http://www.health.gov.lk/moh\\_final/english/article\\_read\\_more.php?id=861](http://www.health.gov.lk/moh_final/english/article_read_more.php?id=861)

Please follow the relevant sections of the General Guidelines (published in this webpage) in addition to the following specific measures.

### Workforce arrangements

- Larger institutions shall have a written COVID-19 preparedness and a response plan including human resource plan and a dedicated focal point to ensure proper implementation and supervision of the said plan.
- Management should ensure that only the permanent or traceable staff is called for duty. The details of the staff such as addresses, national identity card numbers, telephone numbers, and details of closest relatives should be maintained by the owner/manager and a copy of such a document should be provided to the PHI/MOH of the area.
- The employer should ensure that if a sick person reports for work, he/she is sent back home immediately.
- Anyone entering the premises (both visitors and workers) should wash their hands with soap and water before entering. (Foot operated tap is the best for the wash basin). Alternatively hand rubbing with alcohol based hand rub (minimum 70% v/v Alcohol) can be adopted. Disinfecting chambers are not recommended. Use the hand sanitizer after using the fingerprint scanner if available. Fingerprint scanner shall be disinfected before and after each shift.
- Additional optional measures are to remove shoes at the entrance and provide a separate set of shoes to be used inside the premises.
- Check temperatures of all the staff and customers at the entrance. Any person recording a temperature above 98.4 °F or 37 °C should be rechecked after 10-15 minutes of rest and if positive for the second time sent him/her back. Thermal scanner has to be of medical grade.

### Specific measures

- Barber/dresser shall wear a surgical mask and a goggle/face shield throughout when attending to customers.
- A foot operated bin for discarding used masks and tissues should be provided.
- Ensure keeping everyone (barber/dresser and customers) at the barber or beauty salon at least 1 meter physically apart except during the procedure. Number of customers entering the barber or beauty salon should be limited according to the space available in order to maintain distance of 1 meter. An appointment system is recommended.
- Furniture should be rearranged to ensure physical distancing.
- Limit the number of persons in the waiting area. It is recommended that clients wait outside the barber or beauty salon in their vehicles until the barber/dresser is ready to serve them.
- Limit physical interactions between workers, workers and staff.
- Remove all unnecessary items such as magazines, newspapers, service menus, other unnecessary paper products and decor.
- Every barber/dresser should wash his/her hands thoroughly with soap and water between each customer served.

- Barber/dresser should always attend to the customer from behind and sides only and should never encounter face-to face.
- Avoid sharing equipment and tools between barbers/dressers.
- The service has to be performed in the minimum required time to limit exposure.
- All linen (towels & capes) used should be washed after each use and should never be used on another customer without washing. The barber or beauty salon should have adequate amounts of linen at least for 2 days.
- Shaving beards/mustache is not recommended.
- Razor blades should be disposed of immediately after use and should never be reused.
- Barber should never touch the lips of the customer and also should avoid cutting the hair inside the nose.
- Air conditioners with re-circulation of air are not recommended.
- Leave the doors open as much as possible to avoid contact. If kept closed the door knobs/handles shall be cleaned and disinfected every three hours. Alternatively a separate employer can be kept to open and close the door for customers.
- All the services provided in the institution and all the special measures taken at the barber or beauty salon shall be displayed both inside and outside the barber or beauty salon prominently for the customers to read and also be explained.
- Ensure the strict supervision and monitoring of adherence to above measures.

#### **Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces.**

- In addition to the regular housekeeping practices, floor, equipment, and furniture should be sanitized every day before commencing work. Disinfect all furniture tops including the reception counter and chairs in waiting areas before starting the day. (Refer to disinfection in section 3.3 in the main guideline)
- Disinfect the chair, the worktop and all the equipment and tools including combs and hair brushes after been used for one customer before they are used on another customer as per section 3.3 of the main guideline.

#### **Waste disposal**

- Cut hair, nail shall be collected in to a waste collection bag after serving each customer. Once the bag is full, tie it properly and store safely and should be disposed of only after three days. There should be another bag to collect used disposable personal items like masks, tissues and wipes. This bag also needs to be disposed of as mentioned above.

Director General of Health Services

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