



SIERRA LEONE GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE (NACOVERC)
FREETOWN

Freetown 17th June, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE ON MEASURES TO CURB COVID-19 THIRD WAVE

NaCOVERC wishes to inform the general public that Sierra Leone is currently witnessing a third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. This assessment has been informed by the WHO alert as well as a thorough examination of the epidemiological data particularly for the last one month, which strongly indicates not only exponential rise in COVID-19 confirmed cases, but also increased positivity rates, hospitalization and deaths.

We are further informed by available data that a significant number of positive cases are from samples obtained from patients in health facilities. These are predominantly in the Western Area. In the current instance, many of the cases are symptomatic unlike the initial one year of the outbreak in the first and second waves.

In view of our commitment to protecting the lives and livelihoods of our citizens and in response of growing national and international public health concerns, the Presidential Task Force has approved the announcement of the following measures, as proposed by NaCOVERC, for nationwide application *with immediate effect*, for a period of one month, subject to review :-

1. The mandatory wearing of face mask in all public places and transportation - *'No Mask No Entry'*.
2. Social distancing and hand-washing/alcohol-based hand sanitizer use to be observed in all public places.
3. Services in places of worship shall not exceed ninety (90) minutes, with full enforcement of face mask, social distancing and hand-washing protocols.
4. Night clubs and cinemas are banned for one month *with immediate effect*.
5. With effect from Tuesday 22nd June 2021, Government ministries, departments and agencies will only be accessed by employees and members of the public with proof of at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccination. Full dose vaccination is highly recommended.



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6. National Sports Authority designated-activities and competitions shall be held behind closed doors without spectators. Only footballers and officials with proof of vaccination will be allowed into the venue.
7. Social gatherings, including weddings, funerals, receptions, naming ceremonies and the likes shall not exceed fifty (50) people, with mandatory face mask wearing, social distancing and hand washing/use of hand sanitizer.
8. Large-scale entertainment activities or any super-spreader events are banned for the period of one month.
9. NaCOVERC will be enforcing wearing of face mask at shops and at indoor and outdoor markets and crowded stalls.
10. Educational institutions shall comply with mandatory face mask, hand-washing and social distance protocols.
11. Government and private health facilities to incorporate COVID-19 screening for cases matching case definition for COVID-19; and corpses with suspicious case definitions to be swabbed within 12 hours of death.
12. Media is encouraged to run sustained COVID-19 preventive messages; MDAs and NGOs similarly urged to preface meetings and activities with such messages.
13. Age for vaccination has been revised further to thirty (30) years, and a total of eight (8) static sites now operating in the Western Area. Mobile vaccination sites are deployed in strategic locations. Residents are urged to take full advantage of the existing vaccine supply.
14. Fully vaccinated persons after fourteen (14) days of last dose of vaccination shall not be subjected to quarantine.

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Hon. Sheku F. Bangura
Chairman, NaCOVERC