

Advisory on Safe Management Measures for Massage Establishment Outlets

1. As announced by the Multi-Ministry Taskforce on 15 June 2020, all massage establishments (MEs) are permitted to re-open with effect from 19 June 2020.
2. To resume business activities while providing a safe environment for your employees and customers, all MEs must **adhere to the requirements as prescribed in the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020**. In addition, **all MEs must comply with the Safe Management Measures (SMMs) listed below**, which can also be found on the GoBusiness website at <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/sector/>. These measures are meant to minimise the risk of re-emergence and transmission of COVID-19 in the community.

Safe Management Measures for MEs

Safe Distancing

- i. All onsite personnel, including customers, staff, suppliers, and contractors should **wear a mask** at all times, **including during the provision of massage services**.
- ii. The number of customers within the premises should be strictly limited to ensure adherence to the 1 metre spacing requirement between them. However, this will not apply to the masseuse during the provision of the massage service to the customer.
- iii. Where there are multiple massage chairs or beds in a common space, they should be placed at least 1 metre apart. Alternatively, only **alternate seats or beds should be occupied at any one time such that a minimum of 1 metre distance between customers is maintained at all times**.

Cleanliness and Hygiene

- iv. **Conduct regular cleaning and disinfection of the premises and items**, particularly areas with high human contact. Common spaces such as waiting areas, counters, toilets and staff pantries should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected regularly. Items such as towels should be changed and washed, and massage beds and chairs should be cleaned and disinfected after each use.

Management of Unwell Staff

- v. Ensure that all staff who had visited a clinic submit records of their MCs, and diagnoses provided (only for COVID-19-related symptoms, including acute respiratory infection), and inform the ME operators if they had been tested for COVID-19 and the results of their tests. All ME operators are to ensure that staff returning to work after completing their MCs are well before allowing the staff to enter the premises.

- vi. In the event of a **confirmed case** among the staff or customer, ME operator **must inform Police Licensing & Regulatory Department immediately and temporarily suspend operations**. All staff who had been in close contact with the confirmed case shall be placed on Leave of Absence for 14 days (if not already issued with a Quarantine Order by MOH).
- vii. **Implement a follow-up plan with precautionary measures in the event of a confirmed case, including** immediately vacating the premises where the confirmed case had worked and thorough cleaning and disinfecting of all relevant on-site areas and assets that were exposed to confirmed cases.

Monitoring the Implementation of SMMs

- viii. **Implement a detailed monitoring plan** to ensure compliance with SMMs and that issues are resolved in a timely manner (e.g. remedy of non-compliance, risk mitigation).
 - ix. **Appoint Safe Management Officer(s) (SMO)** to assist in the implementation, coordination and monitoring of the system of SMMs at the premises. Duties of the SMO include conducting inspections and checks to ensure that SMMs are complied with at all times and keeping records of the checks which may be requested by the authorities.
3. ME operators must put up clear signages to remind staff and customers of the above measures (in Para 2).
4. In addition to the measures prescribed in the Regulations as well as the SMMs for MEs listed above, all ME operators are **strongly encouraged to put in place additional measures** provided in the **Annex**, to further reduce the risk of outbreak of COVID-19 at your premises.
5. All ME operators must ensure that the above **SMMs are implemented, communicated and explained to all staff prior to resuming operations**.
6. ME operators may refer to MOM's updated advisory at <https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/requirements-for-safe-management-measures> for more details on work-place specific SMMs, and joint advisories issued by ESG, STB, SFA, HDB and URA on general safety and crowd management. These are accessible at <https://www.enterprisesg.gov.sg/covid-19/safe-distance>.
7. ME operators who do not comply with the above requirements may be liable for an offence under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020, with a fine not exceeding \$10,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or both, for first time offenders. Higher penalties of a fine of up to \$20,000, imprisonment of up to twelve months, or both, may apply for subsequent offences. Failure to comply with these requirements may also result in ineligibility for any Government support, such as rental rebates and wage support.

Operators should also ensure that the requirements under the Massage Establishments Act are strictly complied with. Any non-compliance with the relevant laws may result in regulatory action, including but not limited to prosecution and revocation of the ME licences.

8. For further queries, please contact:

Police Licensing & Regulatory Department at Tel: 6835 0000; or via email:
SPF_PLRD_GLD@spf.gov.sg.