

CwC on new COVID measures in Lebanon

The numbers of persons testing positive for COVID-19 in Lebanon continue to rise. In the past 24 hours, over 1,707 persons tested positive, and 10 persons died, adding to the 681,332 persons who tested positive and 8,795 who died due to COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic. As we enter the cold winter months the virus has higher chances of spreading. We are also faced with a new threat, the Omicron variant.

The vaccine is our best defense in fighting COVID-19. Everyone should get vaccinated to protect themselves and their families. We must do so to protect our older persons and vulnerable persons, to keep schools open and to prevent more people from losing their jobs.

To limit the number of COVID-19 transmissions, the Lebanese Authorities have introduced several new measures. We all have a shared responsibility to respect these rules. Failing to do so may result in penalties.

New COVID-19 prevention measures in Lebanon:

1. Starting December 10, 2021, **all workers and employees in the following sectors must have received two doses of a MoPH approved COVID vaccine** or be able to provide a negative PCR test valid up to 48 hours:
 - Medical and healthcare staff
 - Education
 - Tourism
 - Public transportation
 - Public departments, municipalities, union of municipalities
 - Private sector
 - Security forces at the Rafik Hariri International Airport, ports, and land borders
2. **From December 17, 2021 and until January 9, 2022 (inclusive), the Government is introducing a curfew from 7 pm to 6 am, across all Lebanese territories.** Persons who have received at least one dose of a MoPH approved COVID vaccine are exempted from this curfew, as are persons holding a negative PCR test valid up to 48 hours.
3. **Children and youth who are not vaccinated, risk not having access to schools, universities, and other education institutions** as a minimum of 50% of all students must be vaccinated. Please also note that MEHE has announced that winter vacation will be observed for all schools, universities and other education institutes from 17 December 2021 to January 9, 2022.
4. **Social distancing in public places must be respected, authorities may restrict access to persons who are not vaccinated or do not have a negative PCR test valid up to 48 hours.**

Time is a key factor, let us act now! Do not hesitate, the vaccine is safe and effective and prevents serious illness and hospitalization.

For information on COVID-19 vaccines available for different age groups, and administered by the Ministry of Public Health as of 25/11/2021, please click here:

http://refugees-lebanon.org/uploads/poster/poster_163912558499.pdf

For information on all AstraZeneca vaccination centres selected by the Ministry of Public Health, please click here: http://refugees-lebanon.org/uploads/poster/poster_163912674052.pdf

For information on all Pfizer vaccination centres selected by the Ministry of Public Health, please click here: http://refugees-lebanon.org/uploads/poster/poster_163912645119.pdf

For information on who is eligible for a Third Dose of the COVID-vaccine and how to register, please click here: http://refugees-lebanon.org/uploads/poster/poster_163912519426.pdf