

## Healthy measures anti-COVID

## Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to inform you that according to current regulations, the Annual Congress of ESPES (European Society of Paediatric Endoscopic Surgeons) can take place in Lugano from 15 to 17 September, 2021

In order to comply with the requirements of the authorities for the containment of COVID infection, ESPES has developed appropriate measures for the protection of all participants to the congress to best protect them from infection.

The following measures will be implemented at the congress:

- Given the impossibility in some rooms to comply with the prescribed distance rule of 1.5 meters
  the use of masks is mandatory for ALL participants, speakers, exhibitors and employees
  throughout the Congress Palace. Masks will be made available free of charge to attendees at
  the main entrance. Each attendee will be provided with several masks for the congress.
- At the main entrance of the Palazzo dei Congressi there will be a fixed station to check the valid Green-Pass or negative COVID Test certificate for all participants entering the congress.
- Participants will receive their personal badge upon entering the Palazzo dei Congressi and will
  be asked to provide the necessary information according to the regulations of the Canton
  Ticino.
- With the registration the following participant data will be saved: last name, first name, e-mail
  and country. If necessary, the contact data can be forwarded to the competent Cantonal
  Doctor's Office at the latter's request.
- Participants with symptoms of COVID-19 disease or who are obviously affected by symptoms are urged not to attend the congress.
- There is a general ban on consumption inside the Auditorium and seating availability will be alternated.
- During morning and afternoon breaks, food and beverages will be available in the indoor areas and the Atrium doors to Ciani Park will be open for outside consumption.
- During the lunch break, Box-lunch bags will be distributed and must be consumed outside.
- Long wait times at check-in will be avoided by scheduling staff and sufficient time.
- On digital totems, sanitary measures will be announced continuously: keep your distance, disinfect your hands, waive handshakes, etc.
- To comply with hygiene measures several dispensers with disinfectant are available at the Convention Center.
- Cleaning intervals have been increased in all accessible areas.
- We recommend the installation of the "SwissCovid" app, the official contact-tracing application of the Federal Office of Public Health.

- On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> September from 8:00 to 10:00 besides the registration desk, there will be a service to perform a COVID test for the participants that will need it for continuing their stay in Lugano or for the returning flight/trip. The test will have a cost of 40 CHF that will need to be reserved and paid at the moment of the registration. For Swiss residents the cost will be cover by their Health Insurance (a card must be provided)
- The following disclaimer applies: Participation in the congress at and in the event venue is at your own risk. In the interest of safety, the participant is particularly obliged to follow the instructions of the organizer. In the event of a violation of the instructions and/or the congress safety plan for the protection of other participants, the organizer has the right to exclude the participant concerned from the event.
- The organizer assumes no responsibility for any changes in the program or for the sudden absence of speakers.
- If you have urgent questions about protection measures or in case of emergency, please contact the Congress Chairman Dr. Mario Mendoza or the Administrative Secretary of ESPES Mrs. Annie Claude Plisson-Bruyere who will be available continuously at the ESPES Desk in the Atrium.

The protective measures listed above are constantly being updated and adjusted in accordance with current ordinances.

**ESPES Congress Committee** 

