

## **Safe Management Measures for Funeral Events**

The Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) has announced the streamlining of Safe Management Measures (SMMs) to five core parameters (SMM 1 – 5). The following measures will take effect from **15 March 2022**. This document provides the conditions under which the Funeral Director or any person engaged to organise the funeral event, or premises owner of the venue where the funeral event is held when no person is engaged to organise the event, are permitted to carry out activities at funeral events.

### **Limits on Number of Attendees**

1. The maximum number of attendees present at the same time at funeral wakes and funerals including foot procession will be based on the capacity of the venue, with the exception of funerals held at home of which the current arrangement of up to 30 attendees remains. Pre-event testing is not required.
2. Cremations held at Mandai Crematorium shall be attended by not more than 50 persons in total. NEA will issue 50 entry passes for each cremation application at Mandai Crematorium.
3. Religious workers, funeral staff and persons involved in the conduct of live instrumental (non-wind) music should be kept to a minimum.

### **Group Size and Safe Distancing**

4. All attendees at funeral wakes, foot processions, burials and cremations must wear a mask. Safe distancing is encouraged but not required.

### **Food and Beverage**

5. Attendees of funeral events should minimise their interaction with fellow attendees and leave the premises immediately after the event. No buffet set-up or reception with food and drinks is allowed. From 19 July 2021, provision of individually packed drinks (i.e. bottled/packet drink) or individually packed titbits (e.g. peanuts, melon seeds) is disallowed at funeral wakes.
6. Individually packed food/drink (e.g. bento boxes) may be supplied to family members of the deceased who keep vigil for the duration of the funeral wake, and need to consume food at the premises. However, they should not interact with the other attendees when consuming their meals, and should consume their meals with 1m safe distancing from guests present at the funeral/wake event, and in groups of up to 5 individuals.

## **Live Performances**

7. Live instrumental music (non-wind) will be allowed at funeral events. The persons involved in the conduct of live instrumental music must wear a mask. They are not to participate in the foot procession. No other performances (e.g. singing, dance, variety act) are allowed and there should be no sharing of equipment (e.g. musical instruments, microphones, props). Live singing and playing of wind instruments (instruments which require intentional expulsion of air, e.g. trumpets, conch shell) are not allowed.
8. Hearse escort party, i.e. musical band and/or display contingent on foot and including vehicles ferrying banners/blanket/flowers, is not allowed during the funeral event.
9. Religious workers involved in the conduct of the religious rites (e.g. preachers, prayer leader, scripture reader), will be required to wear face mask, when performing their speaking duties (i.e. preach, chanting of prayers) at funeral wakes and funeral services (i.e. cremation or burial services). Use of face shields in place of face mask is no longer allowed.

## **Health Check**

10. Any person who is unwell must be turned away.

## **TraceTogether-only SafeEntry**

11. SafeEntry check-in is required for funeral events and funeral parlours with wake halls. From 17 May 2021, TraceTogether-only SafeEntry (TT-only SE) check-in is required for funeral events and funeral parlours with wake halls. Visitors must perform TT-only SE check-in, via TraceTogether app or TraceTogether token to enable or facilitate contact tracing.
12. From 19 April 2021, funeral parlours with wake halls are required to deploy SafeEntry Gateway as an additional SafeEntry check-in method. The SafeEntry Gateway enables contactless detection of both the TraceTogether App and Token, and serves as an additional means of SE check-in that is quicker and more seamless.

## **General**

13. Discourage vulnerable persons, such as the elderly, from attending these events to protect their health and consider alternative solutions for them, such as live video screening instead.

14. Individuals are urged to continue to exercise personal responsibility and conduct self-testing, and practise good personal hygiene, especially prior to visiting crowded places or interacting with vulnerable groups.
15. Funeral staff is strongly advised to administer self-testing regime using the Antigen Rapid Test (ART) kits available for purchase over retail counters. Family members may also consider to perform self-testing if they are worried that they may have COVID-19 and want to put their mind at ease. For more information on ART self-test kits, please visit [https://www.moh.gov.sg/docs/librariesprovider5/art---self-test/simple-guide-to-art-self-test-kits-\(jul-21---web-version\).pdf?sfvrsn=3642cdc6\\_0](https://www.moh.gov.sg/docs/librariesprovider5/art---self-test/simple-guide-to-art-self-test-kits-(jul-21---web-version).pdf?sfvrsn=3642cdc6_0).