

# Low Cost Hygiene and Social Distancing Interventions

The Prevent Epidemics team at Resolve to Save Lives has been impressed with these simple, practical guidelines. They were produced by a team from Australia: Dalton, Craig and Corbett, Stephen and Katelaris, Anthea, Pre-Emptive Low Cost Social Distancing and Enhanced Hygiene Implemented before Local COVID-19 Transmission Could Decrease the Number and Severity of Cases. On March 5, 2020. Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3549276> or <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3549276>

Although these guidelines are not applicable to all areas, we hope you find the ideas useful. During times when schools, workplaces, or other locations are closed, they are not applicable.

- ✓ Supervised sanitisation of hands at entrance and at regular intervals
- ✓ Disinfect high-touch surfaces regularly and between users
- ✓ Defer activities that lead to mixing between classes and years
- ✓ Outdoor lessons where possible
- ✓ Promote cough and sneeze etiquette (but focus on excluding ill persons)
- ✓ Consider opening windows and adjusting air conditioning
- ✓ Strict stay-at-home policy if ill
- ✓ Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation (canteen) staff and their close contacts
- ✓ Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- ✓ Review after-school care arrangements that lead to mixing of children from multiple classes and ages
- ✓ Regular handwashing schedule

## SCHOOL INTERVENTIONS



## HOUSEHOLD-BASED INTERVENTIONS



### All Households

- ✓ Enhanced hand sanitisation
- ✓ Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- ✓ Disinfect high-touch surfaces regularly
- ✓ “Welcome if you are well” signs on front door
- ✓ Increase ventilation rates in the home by opening windows or adjusting air conditioning
- ✓ Promote cough and sneeze etiquette

### Households with Ill Members (in addition to measures on left)

- ✓ Ill household members are given own room if possible and only one person cares for them
- ✓ The door to the ill persons room is kept closed\*
- ✓ Wearing simple surgical/dust masks by both infected persons and other family members caring for the case
- ✓ Consider extra protection or alternative accommodation for household members over 60 years or with underlying illness

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## WORKPLACE INTERVENTIONS



- ✓ No handshaking policy
- ✓ Promote cough and sneeze etiquette (but focus is on excluding ill staff)
- ✓ Videoconferencing as default for meetings
- ✓ Defer large meetings
- ✓ Enforced sanitisation of hands at entrance
- ✓ Regular hand sanitation schedule reminders via email
- ✓ Lunch at desk rather than in lunch room
- ✓ Gamifying hygiene rules e.g. to discourage touching face
- ✓ Ill\* people stay at home and ill workers immediately isolated
- ✓ Hold necessary meetings outside in open air if possible
- ✓ Staff with ill household contacts should stay at home\*\*
- ✓ Disinfect high-touch surfaces regularly and between users
- ✓ Work from home where possible
- ✓ Consider opening windows and adjusting air conditioning\*\*\*
- ✓ Limit food handling and sharing of food in the workplace
- ✓ Assess staff business travel risks\*\*\*\*
- ✓ Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation (canteen) staff and their close contacts
- ✓ Analyse the root cause of crowding events on site and prevent through rescheduling, staggering, cancelling

- ✓ Sanitisation of hands at building entrance encouraged
- ✓ Tap and pay preferred to limit handling of money
- ✓ Disinfect high-touch surfaces regularly
- ✓ Avoiding crowding through booking and scheduling, online pre-purchasing, limiting attendance numbers
- ✓ Enhance hygiene and screening for illness among food preparation staff and their close contacts
- ✓ Enhance airflow and adjust air conditioning
- ✓ Public transport vehicles/taxi/ride share-vehicle windows opened where possible, increased air flow, high-touch surfaces disinfected

## COMMERCIAL/ ENTERTAINMENT/ TRANSPORT SETTING INTERVENTIONS



\*"Ill" person refers to someone with an undiagnosed respiratory illness or fever, who is not yet under investigation for COVID-19 but nevertheless could be an unrecognised case.

\*\* This could be costly unless used judiciously while awaiting exclusion of COVID-19 in the case and should be introduced based on likelihood of local transmission.

\*\*\* Evidence that low temperature and low humidity in air conditioned environments may enhance the survival of coronaviruses such as SARS.

\*\*\*\* Sites such as the CDC travel risk assessment site may be useful <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>