



Decree 81/2022, of 9-3-2022, of new exceptional measures due to the evolution of the health emergency situation caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

Government

Other provisions

Decree 81/2022, of March 9, 2022

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Statement of reasons

Epidemiological and health indicators continue to show an improvement in the evolution of the pandemic which allows the existing measures to continue to be relaxed.

Specifically, the need for access with a COVID-19 certificate for certain spaces or activities is left without effect, considering that it is not currently necessary to apply this measure given the high level of immunity of the population, the lower severity of omicron variant infection and the decline in the number of cases.

However, it is established that it is necessary to maintain the measure to access the spaces with the presence of the most vulnerable population, such as social and health care homes or manor houses and old people's homes.

The Government's intervention is based on the provisions of the General Health Law, of March 20, 1989, and of Law 30/2018, of December 6, classified as public security, in the terms established by Law 19 /2020, of December 23, which modified them.

With this Decree, the measures contained in [Decree 75/2022](#) , of 2-3-2022, of new exceptional measures due to the evolution of the health emergency situation caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

This Decree enters into force on March 10, 2022 and will be in force until March 16, although it may be extended or modified depending on the evolution of the pandemic.

For everything that has been presented, at the proposal of the Minister of Health, the Government, in the session of March 9, 2022, approves this Decree with the following content:

Article 1. Basic prevention measures

1. The use of the mask is mandatory for all people aged six or over in the terms established in this Decree.
2. The masks that can be used can be surgical, homemade, hygienic or FFP2.

3. The use of the mask is mandatory in closed public spaces.
4. It is exempted from the obligation to use the mask on public roads and in open spaces, as long as there are no agglomerations of people. In outdoor spaces, the use of the mask is established as mandatory in cultural and sporting events of 1,000 people or more.
5. It is exempted from the obligation to wear a mask in workplaces without contact with the public. In the same way, the use of the mask is also exempted in work meetings formed by groups of people who work together on a regular basis.
6. The use of FFP2 masks is established as mandatory in the situations detailed below:
 - a) Visits to people admitted to health and socio-health centers.
 - b) Assistance to health centers.
 - c) Assistance to manor houses.
7. The use of the FFP2 mask is recommended, especially in indoor spaces, for people who, due to age, risk factors or lack of immunity, are particularly vulnerable to SARS-CoV-2 infection.
8. Crowds must be avoided in any situation or activity.
9. Hand hygiene must be maintained before and after any activity.
10. Spaces, facilities, equipment and materials must be cleaned and disinfected frequently.
11. In the interior spaces, air renewal must be guaranteed through natural or forced ventilation. If it is with natural ventilation, the facilities must be ventilated for fifteen minutes every hour, without the need to stop the activity.
12. A person who meets any of the following conditions is considered an immunized person:
 - a) Is vaccinated against COVID-19 and fourteen calendar days have passed since the date of administration of the last dose of the complete vaccine regimen and less than 270 days have passed since the last dose received, or has received a booster dose of the vaccine.
 - b) The disease has passed in less than six months.
 - c) The disease has passed, she is vaccinated against COVID-19 with a dose of the vaccine and fourteen days have passed since it was administered and less than 270 days have passed since the last dose received, or she has passed disease and has received two doses of the vaccine.

Article 2. Access control with COVID-19 certificates

1. The use of the COVID-19 vaccination, diagnostic test or recovery certificates or the use of the contraindication certificate of the vaccination against COVID-19 are established as mandatory for users or customers to access the establishments or events detailed below:
 - a) Socio-health assisted residences and residential homes in the terms provided for in article 10.
 - b) Day centers and manor houses in the terms provided for in articles 11 and 12, respectively.

2. The establishments provided for in section 1 must make public, in a visible place before access to the interior of the establishment, that they carry out access control using COVID-19 certificates.

3. The staff of the establishments indicated in section 1 must verify through an access control that the attendees have a COVID-19 certificate certifying that they meet one of the following conditions:

a) Be vaccinated against COVID-19 and meet any of the following conditions:

(i) Having passed the disease and having received one dose of the vaccine, or having received the complete vaccine regimen and fourteen calendar days have passed since the date of administration of the last dose of the complete vaccine regimen. In both cases, no more than 270 calendar days may have passed since the last received dose of the vaccine.

(ii) Having passed the disease and having received the full vaccine regimen or being vaccinated against COVID-19 with the full vaccine regimen and having received a booster dose of the vaccine.

b) Having passed the disease in less than six months.

c) Have a negative diagnostic test for SARS-CoV-2 infection (PCR or TMA done in the previous 72 hours or rapid antigen test, TRA, done in the previous twelve hours) carried out in an authorized establishment.

4. The staff of the establishments indicated in section 1 must verify through an access control that the attendees, if they do not have a COVID-19 certificate, have a certificate of contraindication to vaccination against the COVID-19. In the latter case, attendees will need to use the FFP2 mask.

5. Access control is carried out from the age of sixteen.

6. For access control, establishment staff can accept certificates in paper or digital format. No copy of the certificates should be kept.

7. The [Decree 356/2021](#) , of 10-11-2021, which approves the Regulation that regulates the creation of digital COVID-19 certificates issued by Andorra and the acceptance of COVID-19 certificates issued by third parties establishes the requirements that must comply with the COVID-19 certificates accepted in Andorra.

8. The [Decree 2/2022](#) , of 5-1-2022, establishing the conditions and procedure for the granting of the certificate of contraindication to vaccination against COVID-19 establishes the procedure to obtain this certificate accepted in Andorra.

9. To verify the validity of the COVID-19 certificates or the certificate of contraindication to the vaccination against COVID-19, the competent authorities or the staff of the establishments provided for in section 1 and 2 empowered to apply certain access controls may carry out an identity check, to ensure that the people are the holders of the certificates.

Article 3. Services of the General Administration

For reasons of public service, the services of Administration personnel may be required to carry out priority tasks other than those of their workplace.

Article 4. Measures for sporting activities

1. Phase 0, regulated in the Federated Sports Practice Plan, remains in place in relation to the country's health situation.
2. For sports competitions in indoor spaces, athletes can dispense with the use of a mask.
3. In the indoor sports training of groups of people who train together on a regular basis, the athletes can dispense with the use of the mask.
4. In indoor sports facilities, the use of the mask can be dispensed with when the sports practice is individual and a minimum safety distance of 1.5 meters is respected. In the rest of the situations the mask is still mandatory.

Article 5. General hygiene and prevention measures in catering establishments (restaurants, bars, cafes and similar establishments)

1. The use of the mask by customers is mandatory for all people aged six or over until the time they are served the food or drink, and they must put it back on in the travel and between services.
2. The self-service buffet is allowed as long as access to the area is controlled and a signposted unidirectional circuit is established in order to avoid crowds, that hydroalcoholic gel is available at various points on the circuit, that the self-service utensils are changed no more than every 30 minutes, that the contact points of the vending machines are frequently disinfected and that there is constant supervision by the establishment to organize customers.

Article 6. Establishments with nightclub, dance hall, pub or similar activities

The managers of these establishments can choose to dispense with the use of the mask, as long as all attendees have a negative result in a rapid antigen test (TRA). This test must be done within a maximum of twelve hours beforehand and must be carried out by authorized health establishments or in self-test format in the same establishments under the responsibility of the organizing establishments and following the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

Article 7. Measures for schools, universities, higher education centers and extracurricular activities

1. In schools, students can carry out activities inside the classrooms without a mask, unless the measure is necessary due to the epidemiological situation and so indicated by the Ministry of Health, or in situations where the watertightness of the coexistence units is not maintained. Outdoor school activities can be carried out without wearing a mask, as long as there are no crowds and the tightness of the coexistence units is maintained. The use of the mask is mandatory for students over the age of six and for staff when traveling inside the centre.
2. The use of masks in classrooms is not mandatory for school staff unless the measure is necessary due to the epidemiological situation and so indicated by the Ministry of Health.
3. All the activities that the students do in the school premises, both inside and outside, have been done without mixing coexistence units.

4. In the indoor extracurricular activities, the use of masks in the classrooms is not mandatory for students and staff, unless the measure is necessary due to the epidemiological situation and so indicated by the Ministry of Health or except in situations in that the watertightness of the coexistence units is not maintained.

5. It is mandatory to wear a mask on school transport for all age groups.

Article 8. Kindergartens

The use of masks in classrooms is not mandatory for kindergarten staff, unless the measure is necessary due to the epidemiological situation and so indicated by the Ministry of Health.

Article 9. Preventive measures aimed at the hospital, health centers and assisted social and health residences and residential homes for people with disabilities

1. Visits are authorized to patients who remain admitted to the hospital, always following the directions of the center's management.

2. The managements of assisted social and health residences must allow the visits of a maximum of two people simultaneously per resident, as long as the following conditions are met:

a) Carry out an access control for the visiting person, who must present the COVID-19 certificate or the contraindication certificate for vaccination against COVID-19.

b) Do a rapid antigen test (TRA) in the same socio-health center. The Ministry of Health provides centers with TRAs to be able to test visitors.

c) People visiting social and health assisted residences must sign the center's certificate of self-responsibility as long as they do not present symptoms of acute illness and are not subject to a home isolation measure.

3. The managements of the assisted residences can allow the departure of immunized residents or those under the age of sixteen, following the following requirements:

a) On the day of departure, the management of the assisted living facilities must verify that the relatives or equivalents who collect the user from the center meet the following conditions:

(i) They have the COVID-19 certificate or they have the contraindication certificate for vaccination against COVID-19.

(ii) They have a negative result in a rapid antigen test (TRA) done in the same social and health center. The Ministry of Health provides centers with TRAs to be able to test visitors.

b) In case of overnight stays outside the center, it is necessary to carry out a TRA on the day of the return to the center and another TRA on the fourth day of the return to the center. Until the negative result of the second TRA, the person must remain in passive surveillance.

This section is also applicable to residential homes for people with disabilities.

c) In case of departures without an overnight stay, a TRA will be made on the fourth day of the departure outside the center, or two weekly TRAs in case of daily departures.

4. The managements of assisted social and health care homes and residential homes for people with disabilities can make the use of masks more flexible among users of the centers

when they are with their usual coexistence group within the center. Users will need to wear a mask when traveling within the center or during visits.

5. Residents of socio-health centers for the elderly and disabled must be screened weekly through TRA.

6. The staff of socio-health centers for the elderly and people with disabilities must use an FFP2 type mask.

7. The non-immunized healthcare staff of the social and health centers for the elderly and disabled must have three TRAs per week. If it is non-care staff, a weekly TRA must be carried out.

8. The immunized healthcare staff of social and health centers for the elderly and people with disabilities must be screened with TRA twice a week. If it is non-care staff, a weekly TRA must be carried out. Screenings must also be carried out on the staff of the hospital center and health centers whose internal protocols so establish, given the risk of contagion and the vulnerability of the people they serve. In this case, the type and frequency of the screenings are those established by the internal regulations of each center.

9. The cost of additional diagnostic tests for non-immunized personnel without justifiable cause, with respect to diagnostic tests for immunized personnel, is borne by the worker.

10. The control of the performance of these tests rests with the same center or service. Those in charge of social and health centers must keep a record of the information on the screening carried out on workers to meet the requirements set out in this article.

Registration is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, and social and health centers act as service providers in order to contain the pandemic.

This record must be kept with security and confidentiality measures. The duration of conservation is up to one month after the validity of this Decree and, once completed, the record must be destroyed. This register must always be available to the members of the Police Force and the officials or workers of the General Administration with functions related to the control of the pandemic and authorized by the Ministry of Health.

11. People who attend health centers and people visiting social and health assisted residences and residential homes for people with disabilities must use the FFP2 mask.

Article 10. Socio-health day centres

Social and health day centers must comply with the following health measures:

1. Indoor activities must be carried out in small groups of a maximum of ten people.

2. Users of the service must sign a self-responsibility certificate stating that they do not have symptoms of acute illness and are not subject to a home isolation measure.

3. Those responsible for these spaces must ensure that users who access the interior of the day centers have a COVID-19 certificate or have a certificate of contraindication to vaccination against COVID-19.

4. The day center managements can make the use of the mask more flexible among users when they are with their usual coexistence group inside the center. Users will need to wear a mask when traveling within the centre.

5. People using day centers must be screened with a TRA test on a weekly basis.
6. Day center staff must use FFP2 masks.
7. The non-immunized care staff of the day care centers must have three weekly TRAs. If it is non-care staff, a weekly TRA must be done.
8. The immunized care staff of the day centers must be screened with TRA twice a week. If it is non-care staff, a weekly TRA must be carried out.
9. The cost of additional diagnostic tests for non-immunized personnel without justifiable cause, with respect to diagnostic tests for immunized personnel, is borne by the worker.

Those in charge of the day centers must keep a record of the information on the screening carried out on the workers to meet the requirements set out in this article.

Registration is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, and the day centers act as service providers in order to contain the pandemic.

This record must be kept with security and confidentiality measures. The duration of conservation is up to one month after the validity of this Decree and, once completed, the record must be destroyed. This register must always be available to the members of the Police Force and the officials or workers of the General Administration with functions related to the control of the pandemic and authorized by the Ministry of Health.

Article 11. Manor houses and retirement homes

Manor houses and old people's homes must comply with the same health measures as day centers provided for in article 10, and the use of the FFP2 mask is mandatory according to current regulations.

Article 12. Measures addressed to the Immigration Service

The person from sixteen years of age who requests an immigration authorization that involves a stay in the Superior Principality or equal to thirty consecutive days must prove, through the presentation of the corresponding certificates, the fulfillment of one of the cases provided for in article 1, section 12, for immunized persons.

Article 13. Duration of the measures

This Decree is valid until March 16, 2022 and may be extended depending on the evolution of the pandemic.

Article 14. Breaches and penalty regime

Any breach of these measures is sanctioned in accordance with the General Health Law or the applicable specific legislation.

Derogatory provision

With the entry into force of this Decree, the provisions of equal or lower rank that oppose it are repealed, and specifically the [Decree 75/2022](#), of 2-3-2022, of new exceptional measures due to the evolution of the health emergency situation caused by the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus.

Final provision

This Decree enters into force the day after it is published in the Official Gazette of the Principality of Andorra.

Which is made public for general knowledge.

Andorra la Vella, March 9, 2022

By delegation

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Minister of the Presidency, Economy and Business
