



COVID-19 PANDEMIC GATHERING RISK ASSESSMENT TOOL Australian Islamic Medical Association (AIMA)

Given the dynamic nature and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, specific recommendations are needed to help the general public make informed decisions based on a number of variables and a wide spectrum of risk. This tool aims to help individuals assess the risks associated with attending or hosting gatherings during the course of the pandemic, with recommendations on how to make the gatherings safer. **The latest public health guidance of the state or territory with respect to indoor and outdoor gatherings should always be followed.** Gatherings that have overall lower-risk variables (under the green column) are safer to attend; and, gatherings with higher-risk variables (under the red column) are less safe. For simplicity, the variables below are not weighted in terms of importance; they have been prioritized within each section.

**LOWER RISK /
CONSIDER GOING**

**HIGHER RISK /
RECONSIDER GOING**

COVID-19 FACTORS

Lower numbers or rates of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations or % positive tests

LOCAL STATUS

Higher number or rate of COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations or % positive tests

Less transmissible AND
Causes milder disease AND
Does not evade protection from vaccines

VIRUS VARIANT

More transmissible OR
Causes severe disease OR
Evades protection from vaccines

WHO IS GATHERING?

Your close bubble, minimum number of different households, people you know and trust

WHO

Many different households, people you don't know or trust

Small e.g. 10 or less

NUMBER OF PEOPLE

Large e.g. 100+

All are fully vaccinated

VACCINATION STATUS

All are unvaccinated or unknown status

No elderly, individuals with high-risk conditions*, or at-risk groups** present

AT-RISK PERSONS

Elderly, individuals with high-risk conditions* or at-risk groups** present

*High-risk conditions may include weakened immune system from transplant, cancer or medications, chronic heart/lung/liver/kidney disease, diabetes, overweight or obese, pregnant, smokers.

**At-risk groups that may need to take extra precautions include essential and healthcare workers, homeless and marginalized persons, persons with disabilities or long-term care residents.



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WHERE ARE YOU GATHERING?

Outdoor

SETTING

Indoor

Open doors and windows, well ventilated space, HEPA MERV13+ filters/air purifiers, HVAC maintained and fan ON

VENTILATION

Closed doors and windows, poorly ventilated space, low efficiency, Fan OFF or unmaintained HVAC

No previous outbreaks, good adherence to public health measures

TRACK RECORD

Previous outbreaks, poor adherence to public health measures

HOW ARE YOU GATHERING?

Nobody has COVID-19 symptoms, exposures or travel within the past 2 weeks

SCREENING

No screening; attendees have symptoms, exposures or travel within the past 2 weeks

Test all immediately before

RAPID TESTING

No testing before

Everyone is masked and wearing well-fitted medical or N95 masks, with optional face shields or plexiglass barriers

MASKS & BARRIERS

Nobody is masked, or masks are worn intermittently, loose or made of cloth. There are no physical barriers

Shorter (e.g. 5 minutes) and once only

DURATION & FREQUENCY

Longer (e.g. 60 minutes) and numerous times

2m physical distancing maintained at all times

DISTANCING

No distancing

WHY ARE YOU GATHERING?

Important life event e.g. wedding or funeral, or reason e.g. work, school

PURPOSE

No special occasion or important reason

No high risk activities will be taking place

ACTIVITIES

High risk activities e.g. exercise, singing, shouting or sharing food will take place

The gathering can be conducted reasonably well in a virtual manner

ALTERNATIVES

The gathering must be conducted in-person