

COVID-19 Protocols Update - October 2022

Due to the relaxation of national COVID-19 rules regarding mandatory isolation, the CPC is updating its advice to member companies and agencies.

It's important that individual companies continue to monitor and make decisions that are right for their own staff, employees, and productions, as the situation continues to evolve.

The CPC no longer recommends mandatory RATs on every job. Companies should continue to make individual decisions with regard to testing where appropriate and where extra caution may be necessary.

The CPC advises that masks should still be worn indoors and when unable to socially distance. This is purely for the protection of cast, crew, and employees, allowing them to continue to work and keeping disruption to other film sets to a minimum.

Most shoots are moving back to buffet-style catering in an effort to combat the sustainability issues caused by COVID-19-style packaged catering. Similarly, water bottles are presently a combination of re-fillable for those who are comfortable and bottles for those who are not.

The CPC recommends a health declaration still be signed by all attending a shoot or tech scout. The health declaration will catch any attendees who may be showing cold or flu symptoms or whose family members may have COVID-19 and allow appropriate decisions and precautions to be made ahead of a shoot.

With regards to COVID-19 backup for talent, as is currently the case, this should be discussed with an agency and assessed, and a decision made on a job-by-job basis.

It's also our recommendation that the COVID-19 addendum to the Standard Production Agreement continues to be signed while we navigate the implications of this next period of COVID-19 in the community.

It's important to understand that the end of mandatory isolation is likely to cause a spike in COVID-19 cases as 2022 comes to an end. So, while the world out there is returning to a semblance of normal, we as an industry should remain alert and considerate with regard to COVID-19, to continue to protect the investment of our clients and the health of our staff and contractors.