

ADCS: Covid-19 Risk Assessment for performances: Autumn 2021

This assessment relates to the additional risks associated with concerts. The risk assessment precautions of rehearsals will apply to the rehearsal and performance on the day of the concert and this risk assessment is in addition.

The risk

Covid-19 is principally an air-borne infection, transmitted by means of the victim inhaling droplets or aerosols containing the virus which have been expelled by a contagious person's breath, sneezing or coughing. On a far lower scale, it can infect a victim when handling a recently contaminated surface and then touching the mouth, eye or nose.

Aerosols are very fine particles which can travel long distances. Generally, face coverings are of limited protection and good ventilation is considered the best countermeasure. N95 and FFP2 grade face masks do provide a high level of protection and are recommended in crowded indoor spaces.

Droplets are larger particles whose travel is generally limited to a few metres and against which good face coverings offer protection. The risk is greatly increased with face-to-face interactions.

Singing has been found to be particularly hazardous due to forced exhalation of aerosols. Special precautions are therefore required to limit the possibility of singers being infectious and spreading Covid-19 in aerosols.

The impacts if the risk happens

The direct impact on a person who catches Covid-19 is well known, varying from symptoms not unlike a cold to death. The only countermeasure to reduce this risk is vaccination and the only option for the concert would be to insist on proof of vaccination before entry.

There is a further risk – to the Society's reputation. Should members of the audience catch Covid-19 and this become public knowledge (or public rumour) then our reputation would be damaged and, until Covid is perceived as being over (if ever), some people may be reluctant to come to concerts. It is therefore in the Society's interest to try to prevent an outbreak, and be seen to be doing so.

Nothing can remove the risks: the aim is to reduce the likelihood of an occurrence.

Transmission risk	Possible mitigations and actions
Aerosol, droplet, surface	Ensure no infectious people attend

Ask **Members** and **Performers** to do their own health assessment including a lateral flow test on the day of the concert and stay away if:

- they have symptoms / feel unwell
- tested positive (PCR or Lateral flow)
- have been told to self-isolate
- are quarantining after a visit abroad

Ask audience not to come if they or their party are unwell or tested positive. Offer to refund their ticket money

Know who has been at the concert

Register of members & performers kept

Ticket sales encouraged in advance and names kept

Communicate

Publicity includes information on precautions to be taken by performers for audience

expected behaviours sent to all members and performers

Surface

Clean more often

Venue sprayed before rehearsal and between that and performance

Toilets and common touch points cleaned before concert

Avoid handling

Programmes free

Stewards and ticket-sellers wear gloves

Programmes to be ready at least 3 days ahead – all material to be ready earlier than usual

Droplet

Social distancing / flow of people

Masks to be encouraged with notices on doorways

One-way systems to avoid pinch points

Both doors to be used for entrance to reduce crowding

Stewards to keep people moving to their seats and avoid bunching

No refreshments.

Front two rows of pews require compulsory face masks to maintain barrier between audience and orchestra.

Personal protection

Vaccination and masks

Vaccination encouraged on tickets and advertising

Good quality masks strongly encouraged to be worn throughout performance