

Covid-19: Health & Safety for Conference Attendance

Health & Safety issues have been, and continue to be, a priority for the IAAGT 2022 conference in Ireland. The decision for our community to gather in person once again, after so much time living in isolation, has been a challenge and a concern. Never before has creative adjustment and trusting the process been so relevant. But we have stayed with the difficulties and remained optimistic. As a result, the field is working with us and Ireland continues to be ranked the best in the world for dealing with the Covid virus.

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/social-affairs/ireland-ranked-best-in-the-world-for-dealing-with-covid-1.4712103>.

Our Venue, The Falls Hotel, reflects this level of national solidarity and social responsibility - they have not had a single outbreak of Covid-19 since opening up after lock down. Committed to the welfare of its residents, hotel management has also registered with and signed the Failte Ireland Covid-19 Safety Charter, '**a government endorsed initiative to reinforce confidence in domestic and overseas visitors in tourism businesses**'. The Lahinch Hotel has also been stringent in protecting its residents.

Of course, it is difficult to speculate on how much the situation will change by May 2022 but conference delegates should be aware of the following current regulations and protocol:

- ❖ No-one can attend the conference unless they have been fully vaccinated, by an approved provider, or can produce a valid Certificate of Immunity (evidence of having recovered from Covid) within the previous 6 months. For more details on Ireland's vaccine specifications press [HERE](#).
- ❖ The wearing of masks is obligatory inside the hotel building unless seated for eating or drinking.
- ❖ Anyone showing Covid symptoms during the conference is obliged to self-isolate until a negative RAPID test result is produced.

Further, for delegates who require either a RAPID test or a RT-PCR test for their return journey, the Westland Health Clinic in the nearby town of Ennis has agreed to carry out the tests at the Falls Hotel, on a day and time to be confirmed. The cost of the tests (to be paid by the delegate) is 40 euro and 110 euro respectively. The on-site service of administering the tests is free of charge. Alternatively, self-administered RAPID tests can be purchased at the local pharmacy at a current cost of 24 euro.

We will continue to update the Health and Safety page so check the website regularly [HERE](#). If anyone needs further information, they can contact Deirdre Foley deirdre@iaagt.org or Nicola Ray admin@iaagt.org.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in the majestic and safe setting of Ennistymon, County Clare, Ireland.

**IAAGT Board of Directors
& the CPC (Conference Planning Committee)**

December 2021