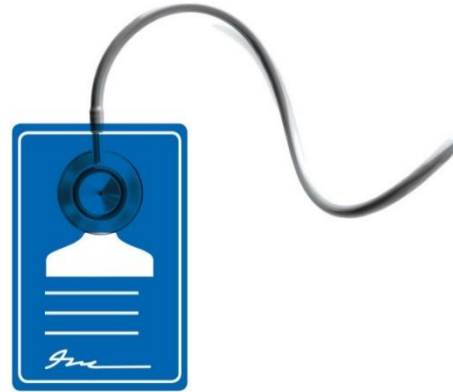


# Briefing



## COVID-19

### Coronavirus – The extension of the protective measures until 8 April and the rules of the step-by-step lifting - Hungary

**29 March 2021**

**The briefing outlines the plan of the step-by-step lifting of those additional government measures which were introduced to mitigate the consequences of the third wave of the coronavirus pandemic i.e., the provisions related to the 2.5 millionth vaccine.**

**Which protective measures applicability has been extended by the Government until April 8? When is it possible to reopen shops and service providers on a limited basis? When will the lockdown be restricted?**

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#### **Which protective measures applicability has been extended by the Government until April 8?**

- The Government extended the scope of all previously applied protection measures until 8 April 2021 on the proposal of the Operational Corp.
- You can find more information about the protection measures introduced earlier, from the Briefings previously published by our Office [here](#).

## **The first step of the lifting of the protective measures – achieve 2.5 millionth vaccination**

- Instead of determining a specific date, the Government assigned the applicability of the new opening rules to the 2.5 millionth vaccine.
- The exact date of the vaccination required for the restricted opening is estimated to be 10 April.

### **1. Lock down**

- The lock down will be between 10 p.m. and 5 a.m., as opposed to the current 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.

### **2. Unlock the pause of the services**

- Temporary protection measures related to the services will be lifted.
- Spaces or locations providing services which require personal appearance are not required to be closed.

### **3. Reopening of the shops**

- The mandatory closing hours of the shops are between 9.30 p.m. and 5 a.m.
- Staying and shopping in the stores is allowed between 5 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.

#### **The shop may be open if the following temporary protection measures are implemented and kept:**

- In the shopping area of a shop with a shopping area of ten square meters or less, one customer can be present at the same time in addition to those employed there.
- In the shopping area of a shop with a shopping area of more than ten square meters, a maximum of one customer per ten square meters on average can be present at a time in addition to those employed there.
- if one-tenth of the shopping area in square meters is not an integer, the rounding rule shall apply.
- The operator of the shop is obliged to display in front of the entrance of the shop – next to the opening hours - that how many main customers can be in the shops' shopping area at the same time.
- During the determination of the number of customers per square meter a minor under the age of 14, a helper for a person over the age of 65, a helper for a person with a disability shall not be taken into account.

#### **The operator and the manager of the shop also the manager of the shopping center must ensure that:**

- the temporary protective measures described above are complied with,
- those who are waiting for entry should keep a distance of 1.5 meters from each other at all times,

- the possibility of hand disinfection for customers must be provided at all times in the shopping areas,
- the disinfection of the surfaces in the shopping areas must be continuous, and
- the equipment used for shopping should be disinfected at all times.
- A shop that does not undertake to implement and comply with temporary protection measures must be kept closed and no one may be present in the shop, except for those employed.
- A shop that does not have a shopping area may be open if the operator or manager of the shop ensures that in the queues waiting in line the people keep a distance of 1.5 meters from each other at all times, with the exception of those living in the common household.

#### **4. Catering shops may only be used for takeaway**

- Staying in the catering shops is allowed only for a necessary period for transporting the takeaway food.

#### **5. Sanctions**

- Compliance with temporary protection measures is monitored by the police and by the government offices of the county with the assistance of the Hungarian Armed Forces.
- If the police or the government office of the county becomes aware of a breach of the temporary protective measures during an inspection or based on a notification from a soldier,
  - may impose fines from HUF 100,000 to HUF 1,000,000,
  - may temporarily close the institution or site for a minimum of one day and a maximum of one year.
- The sanctions can be applied jointly and on several consecutive inspections on the same day.
- No sanction shall apply if the shop operator or the manager has taken the necessary measures to eliminate the illegal situation, in particular if
  - called on the offender to leave, and
  - notified the police after the offender had not complied with the order to leave.
- If the operator or the manager has not taken, or has only partially taken, the measures necessary to remedy the illegal situation, the police or the government office of the county shall take into account the measures taken by the operator to restore the lawful situation when applying the sanctions.

### **From April 19, schools and kindergartens will reopen**

- Return to regular education in public education institutions and vocational training institutions.
- The extraordinary break in kindergartens will be abolished.

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### **Contact**

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**Note: The above is intended only to provide general information. Therefore, the present summary is not a substitute for professional advice. Although it was prepared with due care and diligence, we are not responsible or liable for any mistake, incomplete information or opinion.**