

## **Covid policy for face-to-face meetings & events**

As the Biochemical Society returns to some in-person meetings and events from October 2021, health and safety remain a priority for us. We want to ensure everyone is, and feels, safe at our in-person meetings and events.

*Proof of double vaccination/booster or a negative Covid-19 test will be required to attend any face-to-face meeting or event.* All attendees are strongly encouraged to also do a lateral flow test before arrival, which must have been taken within 48 hours of arrival.

Although masks may not be legally required indoors, we do encourage all attendees to wear a mask. If any local rules regarding vaccines and mask wearing change or differ (such as in Scotland), all attendees will be alerted in a timely fashion.

## **COVID-19 safety measures**

In addition to the above, to keep all attendees as safe and comfortable as possible we will be implementing the following:

- We will undertake a Covid-19 risk assessment for each venue we use.
- We continue to work with venues to supply hand sanitizer stations, increased ventilation and increased cleaning throughout the event. All rooms will have space for social distancing.
- Please consider other attendees' personal space when navigating the event, especially those that may be wearing a facemask and while queuing.
- The Society will minimise printed materials, to reduce the risk of transmission.
- We encourage people to be fully vaccinated, with the second dose received at least 14 days prior to the event, where possible. If you're in the UK, you can schedule your vaccination online.

## **Feeling unwell?**

Do not attend the event if you have tested positive for Covid-19, have any symptoms of Covid-19 or are required to self-isolate (because you have tested positive for Covid-19, are told to by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS Covid-19 app, as a condition of entry to the UK, or someone you live with has tested positive or has symptoms).

## **Unable to attend an event?**

If you are unable to attend a scientific meeting or training event as you've tested positive for Covid-19 and have proof via a PCR test then you may either: transfer your ticket to a colleague, transfer it to a virtual ticket and we will refund the difference or request a refund. Please email [conferences@biochemistry.org](mailto:conferences@biochemistry.org).

## **After the event**

If you test positive within 14 days of attending a meeting or event please inform the Biochemical Society immediately via [conferences@biochemistry.org](mailto:conferences@biochemistry.org). If an attendee informs us that they have subsequently tested positive, all attendees will be informed by the Society, as well as any contact you may have through Test & Trace.

We're monitoring government guidance and will adapt our plans as necessary. The guidance above is therefore subject to change.