

“NEW NORMALITY”

After the publication of the new decree, next week the whole country will begin the so-called “new normality” and we will close the alarm state. This means that health crisis is persisting and every one of us will need to learn how to live with the disease. As you already know, until we have a vaccine or medical treatment, people will continue at risk, and we need to minimize it. IPHES will reopen its doors every week day without restrictions of access for everyone from next Monday, 22 of June. We will apply the summer hours, from 8 AM until 4 PM.

What is more important to face the new phase is to stabilize a personal behaviour and interiorize the necessity of an often hands cleaning, to keep the social distance of protection of 1,5 m and the use of the mask everywhere in IPHES premises, except in your own place of work. IPHES will maintain the availability of the hydroalcoholic gel at the main entrance and everywhere necessary and will ensure a constant cleaning of the facilities and their ventilation, as it has been done the recent weeks. The objective is always to keep IPHES safe, to preserve the security and public health and to not compromise what has been achieved, by the application of preventive measures.

As it has been stated recently, we continue to encourage the work at distance as the more efficient way to face the risks. We will also keep the policy of familiar conciliation and all the staff who could not work at distance and having people in charge will not be asked to attend the IPHES more than two days a week.

For the better running we ask you to fulfil the established rules.

*At your access to IPHES you will have hydroalcoholic gel at your disposal to clean your hands;

*even if you access IPHES by car, the entrance to the institute will be through the main access, where you will have the basic recommendations;

*next Monday we will put at work a new application for the mobile phone to make easy the control of the presence inside the centre; tomorrow you will receive a notification of how it works and how to download it; we will be asked to mark both the entry and the exit;

*for those without a bond with IPHES you will be asked to proceed to a hardcopy control;

*the objective of the presence control is, as usual, for security grounds, and from now on also for healthy grounds;

*it will be compulsory to wear masks everywhere in the IPHES premises except in your own working place;

*all the tables at the centre have a dimension allowing to maintain the social distance of 1,5 m; if we have to be in contact with someone more closely, we have to wear the mask;

*at the laboratories we have to keep the same protocols and access restrictions already established; we have to maintain the access control, from now on through the usual way;

*we have to avoid the crowd and agglomeration in any place;

*the meetings of numerous people will need to be by videoconference;

*for the PhD defence the videoconference will also be encouraged and at Romaní room a protocol will be at work for a restricted access;

*unfortunately, the office will remain closed. We have been told that we should avoid any risk in a space where we share facilities, materials and where we handle food;

*concerning international travels, we will evaluate case by case every request with every people, considering the pandemic situation in the country of destination;

Every one of these protocols call each of us to account for the personal protection behaviour allowing to live together with a health crisis while we recover our usual activities.

The new situation beginning next Monday will last until September 30 2020, without prejudice to change the protocols in one sense or the other following the changes in the health crisis.

Thank you very much for your commitment.