

Scientific investigation of the implementation of a hygiene concept with a focus on an open-air dance event in Berlin under SARS-CoV-2 pandemic conditions

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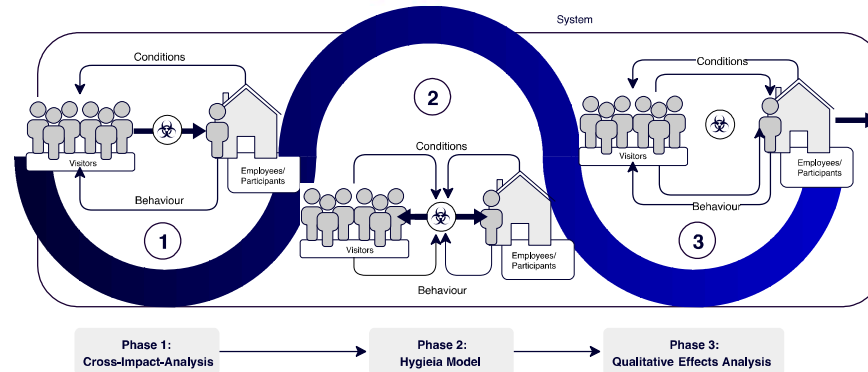
Background

- Strong influence of legal requirements to contain the Covid-19-pandemic on event industry, leading to cancellation of all events during the course of the pandemic
- Negative consequences for already precarious work situations of employees (e.g. technicians)
- Necessity of a comprehensive hygiene concept for holding events, adhering to current state-specific legislation
- Examination of implementation of hygiene concept for an open air dance event in June 2021 as carried out by employees, participants and visitors
- Examination of ad hoc adjustments and countermeasures, as well as optimisation potential

Method

- Pilot project: dance event / rave at techno club / event location "Revier Südost Berlin" (capacity 900 people)
- 220 voluntary visitors, ≥ 18 y, 30 employees / participants
- Negative rapid test or equivalent for all involved persons
- Anonymous scientific observation by 10 study assistants, strategically placed throughout the location
- Observation protocol and position plan according to hygiene concept
- Data evaluation using Microsoft Excel®

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Results

- Recording of 501 violations of stipulations and requirements of the hygiene concept, as observed by study assistants
- 236 violations by visitors, 85 of whom were warned directly by employees, leading to immediate cessation
- Only 18 cases of violation of FFP2 mask wearing requirement on the dance floor
- 265 violations by employees, 129 of them during admission time in the bar area
- Predominant occurrence of violations in admission, lounge, backstage and sanitary areas, leading to ad hoc improvements (e.g. markings, changes to wayfinding, information)
- Comparatively slack handling of artists and accompaniments

Discussion

- Good practicability of the hygiene concept
- Compliance with rules and requirements in large parts by both employees and visitors
- Weak points: keeping of distance around sanitary area, particularly during start and end of the event, as well as the special position of artists and accompaniments
- Provision of first insights into the degree of implementation of special requirements, organisational and subject-related features
- Concrete potential for optimisation
- Use of results to ensure safety of employees in the event industry regarding hygiene and infection protection
- Need of evaluation of further events towards capacity limit
- No evaluation of scientific evidence or other parameters of the hygiene concept in this study

Contact

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