

Planning for ICPE 2022: The Underlying Philosophy of Our In-Person Strategy

The ISPE Board of Directors declared in February 2022 that ICPE will be held as an in-person event. With that in mind, the ICPE Scientific Program Committee has organized the conference on the principle that all presentations should be delivered in person at the conference venue in Copenhagen.

As an expression of our desire for conference attendees physically present at the Copenhagen venue to benefit from the ICPE educational experience, there will be no hybrid sessions at the conference, and virtual/remote presentations are neither permitted to supported at the conference. All presentations must be made in-person. Withdrawals/cancellations – which are anticipated – will be managed just as it has at previous conferences, with a shortlist of backup sessions and standby presenters. Both the ISPE Board of Directors and the ICPE Scientific Program Committee are in alignment with this strategy.

We recognize that not everyone can attend the conference in person. Accordingly, major sessions of the meeting will be live-streamed and complimented with a variety of sessions recordings, at a considerably discounted price and, as with the in-person registration package, include a year of ISPE membership.

Where possible, committee, council, RIG, and SIGs will meet at usual at ICPE, however, due to resource constraints, these events will not be live-streamed. Volunteer leaders will independently decide whether to hold an in-person meeting or a virtual meeting of their respective groups (or even elect to do both, with a virtual meeting following post-ICPE to help reconnect members).

Health & Safety at ICPE 2022

ISPE shares with all ICPE 2022 meeting attendees, speakers, exhibitors, staff, and vendors a commitment to and responsibility for a safe and healthy environment for all conference participants. As we pursue this commitment, we are grateful for the ISPE community's deep knowledge of the risks posed by COVID-19 or its variant strains and full support for safety procedures implemented by ISPE to reduce potential virus spread. Thank you as well for your kind consideration of the comfort and preferences of your fellow ICPE participants.

The situation in Denmark as of June 2022: General COVID-19 restrictions no longer apply. You are not required to be vaccinated and do not need to be tested on arrival. Masking in public places is not required. The airline you travel on may impose vaccine and/or masking requirements, which you are obliged to know and follow. Businesses and private cultural institutions are allowed to make their own requirements regarding face masks, shields, COVID-19 vaccination, etc. You are required to comply with such requirements if you wish for service or access.

Safety and preventative measures implemented by ISPE at ICPE venues will take into consideration guidance from the [Danish Health Authority](#). But even as we implement these measures, please be aware ISPE cannot fully eliminate all risk of harm to conference participants or guarantee safety, especially those posed by COVID-19 or its variant strains. Ultimately, as an ICPE 2022 participant, you are responsible for your own safety.

Please also recognize this is a fluid situation and ISPE safety procedures may change. We will update you as needed via the ISPE website, emails, and other communication channels. Thank you for your understanding.



ISPE's ICPE Health & Safety Policy

ISPE's ICPE Health & Safety Policy as of June 6, 2022: To provide a safe environment for our attendees, presenters, volunteers, exhibitors, staff, and vendor staff, ISPE has adopted the following policy:

- ISPE will only allow participants to physically attend the meeting who are fully vaccinated, as currently determined by their country's health authority. Attendees are required to substantiate vaccination status upon registering at the desk, only in Danish or English.
- ISPE will honor medical or religious exemptions if they are documented in English. Attendee must bring documentation establishing their exemption and present it to the ISPE registration staff to receive conference credentials. Every morning of the conference, vaccine-exempt attendees must provide to ISPE registration staff, at their cost, a negative COVID-19 test result to be admitted to the conference for that day. A rapid antigen test (RAT) result is acceptable for this requirement. Attendees must bring (or purchase locally) enough tests to cover the duration of their time at the conference. Test results must be submitted to ISPE registration staff (via means to be determined) each day before leaving accommodations for the conference.
- ISPE requires all attendees, presenters, volunteers, exhibitors, staff, and vendor staff to be masked at all times during the conference, or at ISPE-hosted events, using Type IIR or FFP2 (or equivalent or better) grade masks, except when actively presenting, eating or drinking. ISPE will supply complimentary masks throughout the conference. Cloth masks are not recommended.
- ISPE is not responsible for liability or costs arising from health care costs, evacuation home, or isolation at accommodations in Copenhagen resulting from contracting COVID-19. Attendees are strongly recommended to obtain travel insurance to cover the possibility of such circumstances arising.
- ISPE is not responsible for attendees' return-home testing administration, management, or costs. However, guidance is provided below.
- As a condition of attending, all attendees agree to comply with ISPE's Health & Safety Procedures. Registering for the meeting indicates agreement to abide with and/or comply with these policies.
- We encourage all attendees to comply with ISPE policy and to set the standard for responsible behavior expected of professionals in our field. We regret that for serial noncompliance with this policy you may be asked to cease participating in the conference.
- As a registrant, you acknowledge that you understand and knowingly and freely assume all risks related to illness and infectious diseases, such as COVID-19, by attending ICPE 2022.

If you are in any way uncomfortable with our requirements or feel you cannot comply, please do not register for the meeting.



Your safety is our #1 priority: How We Will Manage the Policy and What You Can Expect If You Attend

- Do not participate in ICPE activities or discontinue participation if you feel unwell, are awaiting COVID-19 test results, believe you have been exposed, or are unable to participate safely. ISPE will provide guidance regarding local testing availability and housing options for extended isolation if needed. Attendees will be responsible for the scheduling and cost of testing or housing. Please contact the registration desk immediately if you test positive for COVID-19.
- The Bella Center, the venue for ICPE 2022, will be organizing and managing validation checks at entrance 6 to the center. You must present your vaccine documentation to the security personnel at this entrance to be admitted and to receive your conference credentials. You cannot be admitted to the conference without your credentials.
- Once you have your conference credentials, you will not need to confirm your vaccine status again throughout the conference as long as you are able to clearly display your credentials. If you lose your conference credentials, you must repeat the vaccine validation process again to receive replacement credentials.
- ISPE is mandating mask wearing of all attendees, at all times during the conference, except for when presenting, or actively eating or drinking. Cloth masks are not acceptable; you must wear Type IIR or FFP2 (or equivalent or better) grade masks. You may provide your own or use ISPE-provided masks (free of charge).
- While masks are not mandated by the Danish authorities, wearing one is recommended while using public transportation, including airplanes, at airports, and riding taxis. Private establishments, such as restaurants, may set their own mask-wearing rules; please follow posted venue guidelines.
- A red/green badge lanyard color coding system, exhibiting the wearer's comfort level with personal interactions, will be in operation during the conference. Red = preference for limited or no physical contact with others; avoids crowds; requests social distancing be observed. Yellow = prefers caution with personal interactions. Green = least restrictive and implying that the bearer will honor the minimal requirements from Danish authorities, be comfortable sitting or standing near to others, and greeting others physically (i.e., shaking hands).
- In addition to making face masks free of charge during the conference, hand sanitizer will be widely available.
- Should you need a specific test for a return flight home, please visit this site for testing facilities: <https://en.coronasmitte.dk/general-information/test-for-covid-19/find-covid-19-test-center>. Private test facilities (PCR, antigen test, certificates) can also be found at Copenhagen airport: <https://www.cph.dk/en/practical/covid19/covid-19-testing-airport>

