

## ”Rule of 8”, takes effect from november 24th

**The infection in Sweden continues to increase. Therefore more restrictions and advice are now issued. Only 8 people are allowed to attend public gatherings and public events.**

The government, the Swedish Public Health Agency, and all other agencies are working together to prevent the Corona infection from spreading. Therefore, new rules are issued. Some rules apply throughout the country, other rules only apply to certain counties.

The former and most important rules still apply to the whole of Sweden: to keep a physical distance, wash your hands and stay at home when you have symptoms of Corona (Covid-19).

A new restriction for the whole country is that only 8 people may gather at ”public gatherings” or ”public events”. The only exception is funerals, where 20 people can attend.

The new restrictions also mean that the police can stop or dissolve a public gathering if there are too many people. The person who arranges a public meeting can be sentenced to a fine or imprisonment for 6 months.

The rule takes effect on November 24 and applies for four weeks. If the situation has not improved by then, the restrictions can continue for Christmas and New Year.

### **New rules for nursing homes - again**

During spring and early fall, it was prohibited to visit nursing homes. Later the rules were

removed but now the infection is increasing again. Therefore, the government has decided that the Swedish Public Health Agency may decide on local restrictions on nursing homes. It will thus be different throughout the country. The ban only applies in places where it is needed.

Unlike before, those who live in the nursing home can now invite their husband or wife or partner. It was not allowed before.

If you want to visit a nursing home, you must call there and ask if you can come. It is valid from November 21 until February 2021.

### **Good news – a vaccine may be available soon**

Many pharmaceutical companies are now developing vaccines against Corona. Experts believe that there may be a vaccine in Sweden at the beginning of next year. But initially not everyone is vaccinated. The priority is given to the elderly, people with underlying diseases and those who work in healthcare.

If the work with the vaccine turns out well, everyone in Sweden can be vaccinated in the fall of 2021. But it is not known for sure yet.

#### **Public gathering - example**

Demonstrations or lectures for the public, religious meetings, theatres, cinemas, concerts etc.

#### **Public event - example**

Competitions or performances in sports. Dance, amusement parks, fairs and markets.

*The rule of 8 does not apply for schools, public transport and shops, nor to private meetings, but the government assumes that it is still understood that it is not appropriate to crowd together. Always avoid physical contacts outside the household.*