Framework hygiene plan for the TU Braunschweig during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic

- This plan is annexed to the implementation notes of the pandemic plan -

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In universities, there are often many people in a small space. This makes it particularly easy for infectious diseases to spread. The Act on the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases (Infection Protection Act) aims to prevent transmissible diseases in humans, to detect infections at an early stage and to prevent them from spreading.

The TU Braunschweig has to develop concepts including hygiene plans both as an employer (see Occupational Safety and Health Act) and prior to the start of attendance events (e.g. internships, etc. see SARS-CoV-2 Occupational Safety and Health Standards of the BMAS) or the opening of public facilities. The purpose of the hygiene plans is to minimise the risk of infection in the facilities concerned. The hygiene plan must be checked regularly to ensure that it is up to date and, if necessary, modified or supplemented and must be adapted to the organisational and structural-functional conditions of the facility. If necessary, this must be arranged by the responsible managers on site.

All hygiene-relevant areas of the TU Braunschweig are taken into account when drawing up the hygiene plan. In particular, these are areas at the TU Braunschweig that are heavily frequented, such as

1. lecture halls, seminar and practice rooms
2. special laboratory and work rooms for practical courses
3. rooms in which tests are held

Those responsible for organisational facilities or operational areas with special hygiene requirements shall draw up separate hygiene plans if

- areas with high public traffic are available,
- often joint counselling sessions take place in one room,
- in small working groups (two of the more persons as a team) the persons change frequently.

Examples are the university library or the student service center.

The Occupational Safety and Medical Service supports those responsible in drawing up these plans.

General information

For the entire TU Braunschweig, the crisis management team stipulated that mouth-and-nose covers should be worn for work where the minimum distance of two metres cannot be maintained. However, the priority is clearly that work must be classified and organised in such a way that wearing these covers must be an exception. The responsibility for this risk assessment before starting work lies with the supervisors.
Communication

- preferably by e-mail, telephone, video conferences etc.
- a minimum distance of at least two metres to the person you are talking to must be maintained
- If the minimum distance cannot be maintained, transparent protective walls (droplet protection) must be installed in areas where there is a technical possibility of keeping a distance during conversations.

Minimisation of the flow of people or maintenance of the distance requirement

- Signs must be affixed
- Reception areas are to be defined and delimited and route guidance is to be marked
- Barriers must be created (partitions, spacers, etc.)
- In front of highly frequented areas, e.g. lifts, working time recording devices, waiting areas, distance markings must be placed on the floors.

In sanitary areas, all surfaces are to be damp cleaned once a day. The door handles are also wiped with a damp cloth and a daily check is made to ensure that sufficient liquid soap and paper towels are available. Paper disposal containers must be provided with a bag and are also emptied daily. The waste bins are cleaned inside and outside once a week. Toilet paper, towel paper and liquid soap are always available.

Hand disinfectant dispensers are to be installed at particularly heavily frequented entrances and exits. The crisis committee decides on the installation. Before using hand disinfectant, any existing hand jewellery should be removed. The dispensers are checked daily.

All non-technically ventilated work rooms must be ventilated regularly (approx. once an hour).

A ventilation and cleaning schedule will help to ensure proper performance.

1. Lecture halls, seminar and practice rooms

1.1 Air hygiene

Several times a day, at least once an hour, the supervisory staff shall carry out a ventilation or cross-ventilation through completely open windows for several minutes. By way of exception, if the length of the examination is 90 minutes, ventilation as above may be carried out after 90 minutes.

1.2 Cleaning the table surfaces

The table surfaces are to be wiped with soapy water after the tests by the assigned personnel.

2.2 Cleaning the laboratory benches

The laboratory benches are to be wiped clean with a damp cloth by the students every day before the beginning of the practical training.

Students should pay particular attention to ensure that they do not bring any personal items (clothing, rucksacks, etc.) into the practical training. No personal belongings (especially drinks bottles) may be left directly in front of the training rooms. Reference is to be made to the existing lockers.
3. Rooms where examinations are held

3.1 Air hygiene
Several times a day, at least once an hour, the supervisory staff shall carry out a ventilation or cross ventilation through fully open windows for several minutes. By way of exception, if the length of the examination is 90 minutes, ventilation as above may be carried out after 90 minutes.

3.2 Cleaning the table surfaces
The table surfaces are to be wiped clean with a damp cloth by the assigned personnel after the test.