

CER Corona Virus Advisory

As you are all aware, the Corona virus has been spreading all over the world, endangering individuals and communities. The Corona virus can stay on hard surfaces for hours and days, and as the Corona virus spreads worldwide, we consulted with Alan Tenenberg, MD, MPH, and Specialist on infectious diseases and in Public Health, for guidelines for the synagogues affiliated with the CER:

1. If a person doesn't feel well, the person should stay home (even if they have to say Kaddish)
2. It is advisable not to kiss other people, as well as communal siddurim, communal taleisim, mezuzot and Sefer Torahs.
3. Avoid shaking hands if not necessary.
4. Wash hands if possible (minimum 20 seconds with soap) especially after you touched surfaces, which have come into contact with large crowds.
5. Don't panic. The probability of catching the virus through the air is extremely low and therefore the wearing of masks is much less important.
6. Put hand sanitizers in public places like entrance to shuls, schools, halls etc. Make sure that soap is available at hand washing stations.
7. If somebody is in quarantine, don't visit him or her, unless you are protected.
8. If you travel by plane, take some sanitising towels with you to clean armrests, tables etc.
9. At these times, we cannot underestimate the importance of washing hands on all occasions prescribed by Halacha.

We pray for all those who have been afflicted by this sickness. May G-d contain this epidemic, heal the sick and guide the scientist to find a vaccine.

With blessings



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