



PHOTO SHUTTERSTOCK

Covid-proof restaurant layouts with the help of a smart app

Scientists at WUR, Delft University of Technology and Erasmus Medical Centre have developed an online tool for designing Covid-proof interiors. The 'SamenSlimOpen' app lets restaurant owners calculate the risk of infection from changes to factors such as the layout, ventilation or number of guests.

The tool combines virological and epidemiological knowledge with data from studies of how people move around rooms. This makes it possible to determine what combination of measures minimizes the risk of spreading the coronavirus in a given interior, explains project manager Quirine ten Bosch from WUR.

Restaurant owners can use the app to estimate how many people could become infected in their restaurant if an infectious person is present. They can then play with variables such as the layout, ventilation, the number

of guests and the installation of screens to get the number of infections as low as possible. The app also shows whether an infected person can pass the disease on to someone at another table.

The tool has been available for restaurants since the start of May and is being developed further for other indoor spaces such as offices, shops and classrooms. With some adjustments, the tool could also be used for other respiratory tract infections.

Info: www.samenslimopen.nl,
quirine.tenbosch@wur.nl