GENERAL MEASURE

In pursuance of Government Resolution No. 194 of 12 March 2020, whereby the government, in line with Articles 5 and 6 of Constitutional Act No. 110/1998 Coll., on the security of the Czech Republic, declared a state of emergency in the Czech Republic due to the threat to health in connection with the documented occurrence of the coronavirus (designated as SARS CoV-2) in the Czech Republic, and pursuant to Section 11(c) of Act No. 240/2000 Coll., on crisis management and amending certain acts (the Crisis Act), as amended, and Section 20(1) of Act No. 241/2000 Coll., on economic measures in states of emergency and amending certain related acts, as amended, the Ministry of Health has decided as follows with respect to the scope of healthcare services provided by acute in-patient care providers:

I.

Effective from 17 March 2020, healthcare providers providing acute in-patient care are ordered to restrict the provision of medical treatment within the framework of planned care, pursuant to Section 5(1)(d) of Act No. 372/2011 Coll., on healthcare services and conditions for their provision (the Act on Healthcare Services), as amended, to the necessary extent, with a view to the health status of the patients for whom the treatment had been planned, in order to ensure sufficient capacity (personnel, materials, and equipment) for the treatment of patients suffering from the COVID-19 disease.

II.

This extraordinary measure takes effect on the day of its issue.

Rationale:

This measure has been issued in connection with adverse development of the epidemiological situation in terms of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease caused by the new coronavirus designated as SARS-CoV-2 in Europe.
The object of this measure is that healthcare providers providing acute in-patient care would restrict the provision of medical treatment in planned care to the extent required for them to gain the capacity necessary for taking care of the expected number of patients suffering from the COVID-19 disease.

This measure is an important prerequisite for managing the impact of the spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus in the Czech Republic.

Immediate implementation of the measure is required for an adequate assessment of the risks vis-à-vis the current adverse epidemiological situation in terms of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease, which is why this extraordinary measure shall take effect on its day of issue.