



THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH
Palackého náměstí 375/4, 128 01 Prague 2

Prague, 29 March 2020

Ref. No.: MZDR 13742/2020-1/MIN/KAN

MZDRX019OYGL

EXTRAORDINARY MEASURE

The Ministry of Health, as the competent administrative authority pursuant to Section 80(1)(g) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on public health protection and amending certain related acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as "Act No. 258/2000 Coll."), **orders**, proceeding pursuant to Section 69(1)(i) and (2) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on protecting the population and preventing the occurrence and spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, this Extraordinary Measure:

I.

1. Effective as at 30 March 2020, all social services providers in the following facilities: homes for handicapped persons, homes for seniors, and homes with a special regime, and social services providers providing alleviating in-patient services are ordered to accept persons for the provision of social services in their facilities (including transfers from other healthcare or social services providers) only after such persons have undergone an examination for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, with a negative outcome.

2. Effective as at 30 March 2020, all social services providers referred to in paragraph 1 are ordered to situate the persons they admit for the provision of social services at their facility in line with paragraph 1 in a separate room for 14 days after their admittance.

II.

This Extraordinary Measure shall take effect on the date of its issue.

Rationale:

The Extraordinary Measure has been issued in connection with the adverse development of the epidemiological situation in terms of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease, caused by the novel coronavirus designated as SARS-CoV-2 in the Europe.

Given the current spread of the COVID-19 disease in the Czech Republic and in most countries around the world, it is necessary to prevent further spread of the COVID-19 disease, which the World Health Organisation declared a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

Since 1 March 2020, when the COVID-19 disease was first proven in a patient in the Czech Republic, the number of cases has grown to 2,657 (as at 28 March 2020). The daily increase in the number of patients newly proven to have the COVID-19 disease has exceeded 200 in recent days (25 March: 291, 26 March: 259, 27 March: 373, 28 March: 262).

This Measure is an important prerequisite for preventing the spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus in the Czech Republic, and, in particular, for preventing its spread among vulnerable groups of persons. The coronavirus is transmitted from person to person in close contact. It is known as a droplet infection which is airborne. Most frequently, it affects the mucous membranes of the upper and lower respiratory track, and the conjunctives.

Immediate implementation of the Measure is required to adequately mitigate the risk with a view to the current adverse epidemiological situation in terms of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease.

The providers of in-patient social services should take all possible anti-epidemiological measures to help prevent the spread of the COVID-19 disease. Such measures may be deemed to include measures focused on the admittance of patients who were tested with a negative outcome, and even such patients must be isolated for a certain period of time with a view to the known duration of the incubation period.

Local competent public health protection authorities shall provide cooperation to the social services providers mentioned above, in order to assist them in as smooth admittance as possible of clients into social care.

Mgr. et Mgr. Adam Vojtěch, MHA
Minister of Health

Signed electronically

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Electronic signature – 29/3/2020
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