



Prague, 15 April 2020

Ref. No.: MZDR 16214/2020-1/MIN/KAN
MZDRX019XB4A

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 amendments to certain related acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as "Act No. 258/2000 Coll."), **orders** this Extraordinary Measure, proceeding pursuant to Section 69(1)(i) and (2) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., in order to protect the population and prevent the occurrence and spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the new SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus::

I.

1. **All healthcare service providers are ordered to prohibit visits to patients in healthcare institutions in which in-patient care is provided, with the exception of:**
 - the presence of a third party during childbirth at a healthcare facility under the conditions pursuant to paragraph 2,
 - visits to patients who are minors,
 - visits to patients whose legal capacity has been restricted,
 - visits to patients in hospices and other patients in a terminal stage of an incurable illness.
2. **All healthcare service providers are prohibited from allowing the presence of a third party during childbirth at a healthcare facility, if the following conditions are not met:**
 - the third party is the second parent of the child or person living in a shared household with the mother giving birth,
 - childbirth takes place in a separate birthing room or box with its own social amenities,
 - contact between the third party and other birthing mothers is restricted,
 - the third party undergoes the measuring of their temperature before entering the birth room or box,
 - the third party has a body temperature of less than 37.0 °C and has no other symptoms of COVID-19 disease,
 - the third party uses a surgical mask as minimum protection of their respiratory passages (the use of improvised or fabric masks is insufficient).
3. **All social service facilities (as defined by Section 34 of Act No. 108/2006 Coll., on Social Services) operating in an in-patient form and all alleviating social services operating in inpatient form, are ordered to prohibit visits by all persons with the exception of:**
 - users of social services who are minors;

- **users of social services whose legal capacity has been restricted,**
- **users of social services in a terminal stage of an incurable illness.**

4. This extraordinary measures is issued with effect from 0:00 a.m. on 16 April 2020.

II.

The extraordinary measure of 27 March 2020, Ref. No. MZDR 13620/2020-1/MIN/KAN, is hereby repealed.

III.

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

Rationale:

The Extraordinary Measure has been issued in connection with the current 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 Europe.

Given the spread of the COVID-19 disease in the Czech Republic and in most European Union Member States, and generally in more than 100 countries around the world, further spread of the COVID-19 disease must be prevented.

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, in relation to vulnerable groups of persons.

The objective of this Measure is to temporarily limit social contact among people to the maximum extent so as to best prevent communal transmission of the COVID-19 disease. For that reason, visits are prohibited to patients treated by in-patient care healthcare providers and visits to clients in social-service facilities (pursuant to Section 34 of Act No. 108/2006 Coll., on Social Services) providing in-patient care, and alleviating social services providing in-patient care. Certain exceptions from this prohibition have been set for patients and clients for whom maintaining contact with their family and friends is important for their health and mental comfort or to give them an opportunity to die with dignity.

Given the development of the COVID-19 epidemiological situation in the Czech Republic, where the uncontrolled spread of the disease has ceased and the reproduction number of SARS-CoV-2 has declined, it is possible to permit the presence of the second parent or other household members at childbirth, but only under precisely specified and defined conditions. The presence of a third party may be permitted at maternity hospitals where the specified conditions can be fulfilled.

Immediate implementation of the Measure is required due to the daily increases in the numbers of

infected persons in the Czech Republic, and consequently, this Extraordinary Measure shall take effect on the date of its issue.

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

Signed electronically

Electronic signature - 15 April 2020

Certificate of signature author:

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