



Prague, 17 April 2020

Ref. No.: MZDR 16484/2020-1/MIN/KAN

MZDRX019YAC0

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. **The free movement of persons throughout the Czech Republic is prohibited, with the exception of:**
 - a) **Travel to work and for the performance of business or other related activities;**
 - b) **Travel necessary to visit family or close persons;**
 - c) **essential travel to procure basic life needs (e.g. shopping for groceries, medicine and medical devices, hygienic products, cosmetics or other drug store goods, food and other animal supplies), including the needs of relatives and close persons, ensuring child care, ensuring animal care, using the necessary financial and postal services, refueling, waste disposal,**
 - d) **Travel required for ensuring the needs and services specified in paragraph (c) for another person (e.g., volunteering, neighbourly help);**
 - e) **Travel to medical facilities and social service facilities, including serving as necessary accompaniment for relatives and close persons, and ensuring veterinary care;**
 - f) **Travel to arrange urgent official matters, including serving as necessary accompaniment for relatives and close persons;**
 - g) **Performing one's occupation or activities serving to ensure:**
 1. **security and safety, internal order, and crisis management;**
 2. **protection of health, the provision of healthcare or social care, including volunteer activities,**

3. individual spiritual care and services;
 4. mass public transport and other infrastructures;
 5. services for citizens, including supply and delivery services;
 6. veterinary care;
- h) visits to nature and parks;
 - i) funerals,
 - j) travel to lessons or examinations or other activities at universities, for which an exemption from the extraordinary measures of the Ministry of Health has been granted,
 - k) travelling back to one's dwelling,
2. It is ordered:
- a) that persons residing in the Czech Republic limit their movements in publicly accessible places to the necessary period of time and to stay in their dwelling, except for the cases listed in point 1 letters (a) through (j),
 - b) to limit contact with other persons to the necessary period of time,
 - c) to stay in publicly accessible places in groups of maximally two persons, except for household members, the performance of an occupation, business or similar activities and attendance at funerals, and to maintain a distance of at least 2 meters from other persons, except for household members, if possible,
 - d) to consume food, including beverages, on public premises at their place of sale only in cases of an essential need for refreshment, if these foods are intended for direct consumption, and in such case to move off to a distance of at least 10 meters from the store, service window, etc. to consume them.
3. The prohibition of free movement pursuant to paragraph 1 does not apply to sports at outdoor sports grounds, in parks, in nature or other publicly accessible areas, provided the following conditions are met:
- protection of the respiratory passages (nose, mouth) to prevent the spread of droplets is required, except for outdoor sports grounds where the persons participating in sports, or groups of persons doing sports together, are separated from other persons by a physical obstacle (e.g. wall or fence) or by a distance of at least 2 meters,
 - maximally two persons do sports together, except for household members; otherwise a distance of at least 2 meters must be maintained from other persons while doing sports collectively,
 - the related indoor premises of the sports grounds are not used, in particular the common changing rooms, washrooms, showers and similar facilities at which the aforementioned conditions would not be met, with the exception of use of the toilets under the condition that measures are put in place to prevent the encounter of several persons indoors at once; however, in these cases it is necessary to implement heightened hygienic measures, in particular disinfection of the hands and also places commonly touched by hands, including travel for the purpose of such sports.

4. The prohibition of free movement of persons pursuant to paragraph 1 does not apply to participation in the training of athletes, for whom sport is a gainful activity. It is ordered that the following rules be observed during training:
- Training is conducted on outdoor sports grounds without a public presence,
 - Only one group of no more than 8 athletes training together is present on the sports grounds at one time, along with the required members of the support team,
 - A distance of at least 2 meters is maintained between the athletes and other persons,
 - During training, the athletes are not required to wear protective respiratory equipment (nose, mouth) that prevents the spread of droplets,
 - No contact, combat training will be conducted,
 - a container with hand disinfectant product will be available on the sports grounds,
 - The related indoor premises of the sports grounds are not used, in particular the common changing rooms, washrooms, showers and similar facilities, with the exception of use of the toilets under the condition that measures are put in place to prevent the encounter of several persons indoors at once; however, in these cases it is necessary to implement heightened hygienic measures, in particular disinfection of the hands and also places commonly touched by hands,
 - After training, all the used training equipment will be disinfected regularly.
5. The prohibition of free movement of persons pursuant to paragraph 1 does not apply to participation at wedding ceremonies for the fiancées, their two witnesses, the person acting on behalf of the public authority or person acting on behalf of an authorised church authority, the registrar and maximally four other persons, including travel to the wedding ceremony; in the course of the wedding ceremony, the fiancées are not obliged to wear protective respiratory equipment (nose, mouth) to prevent the spread of droplets. The participants at the wedding ceremony must maintain a distance of at least 2 meters from other persons, except for household members and the fiancées. Upon conclusion of the wedding ceremony, all of the used items will be disinfected. The first to third sentences will apply mutatis mutandis to the declaration of persons that they are entering into a registered partnership together.
6. The prohibition of free movement pursuant to paragraph 1 does not apply to participation at mass, provided the following conditions are fulfilled:
- mass is attended at the same time by maximally 15 people,
 - the participants at the mass maintain a minimal distance of 2 meters between each other at the place of mass (church, choir, etc.), except for family members,
 - the participants at the mass mandatorily disinfect their hands before entering the premises of the mass,
 - the participants at the mass wear protective respiratory equipment (nose, mouth), which prevents the spread of droplets, except when taking the Eucharist/communion,
 - the wish of peace and blessing with holy water and similar rituals are omitted during the mass,
 - the clergyman disinfects his hands at least before the start of the mass, before and after serving the

Eucharist/communion,

- **the length of the mass is not needlessly extended whilst observing liturgical regulations,**
- **the premises of the mass is duly ventilated and contact points (handles, pews, etc.) are disinfected after the mass,**
- **the worshipers are prevented from entering other places in the church/choir except for the primary area of the mass.**

The same rules will apply to weddings and christenings. Churches/choirs remain open outside of mass for private prayer and individual spiritual care.

7. This extraordinary measure is issued with effect from 12:00 a.m. on 27 April 2020.

II.

Effective from 12:00 a.m. on 27 April 2020, the extraordinary measure of 15 April 2020 Ref. No. MZDR 16195/2020-1/MIN/KAN is repealed.

III

This extraordinary measure takes 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 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 the 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 5,991 (as at 12 April 2020). The daily increase in the number of patients newly proven to have the COVID-19 disease oscillated around 200 in recent days.

This measure is an important prerequisite for preventing the spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the novel SARS-CoV2 coronavirus in the Czech Republic. 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. The incubation period is two to fourteen days. The most common ways for the virus to enter the human body are the mucous membranes, meaning the mouth, nose and also the eyes. These places are an open door for the virus.

The aim of this measure is to restrict the free movement of persons and contact with other persons, in order to maximally limit the community transmission of the COVID-19 disease.

Given the permission of certain individual activities as a part of university studies (in particular consultations and examinations), an exemption is stipulated for travel for the purpose of attending these permitted forms of university study.

In the case of operating outdoor sports grounds, it is expressly permitted to use the toilets located on the indoor premises of the sports grounds, but measures to limit contact between persons must be met, and increased disinfection of these premises must be implemented.

An exemption is stipulated for the training of professional athletes, who are allowed to train collectively in small groups, even without face masks; however, other increased hygienic measures must be observed.

An exemption is stipulated for the possibility of conducting wedding ceremonies with no more than 10 participants in total
and for mass with no more than 25 participants in total.

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

Signed electronically

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Electronic signature - 17 April
2020 Signature author's
certificate:

Name: Mgr. et Mgr. Adam Vojtěch, MHA
Issued by: PostSignum Qualified C...
Valid through: 25 December 2020 14:14:59-
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