



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

Prague, 17 April 2020

Ref. No.: MZDR 16545/2020-1/MIN/KAN



MZDRX019YGGA

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 spread of COVID-19 disease caused by the new SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus:

I.

All the regions and the City of Prague are ordered to ensure the coordination of activities between the locally competent regional hygienic stations (hereinafter referred to as the “KHS”), medical rescue service providers (hereinafter referred to as “ZZS”) and healthcare service providers ensuring the collection of samples needed to diagnose the COVID-19 infectious disease (hereinafter referred to as “testing centers”) and mobile collection teams of the medical rescue service and Army of the Czech Republic (hereinafter referred to as the “mobile collection teams”). All the regions and the City of Prague are ordered to ensure the submission of information to the COVID-19 Central Management Team (hereinafter referred to as the “CŘT”) in the scope of Art. I of the extraordinary measure of the Ministry of Health Ref. No. MZDR 14629/2020-1/NH of 3 April 2020 and methodical measure Ref. No. MZDR 14628/2020-1/NH of 7 April 2020.

II.

The KHS are ordered to create application forms for the collection of samples via the testing centers or mobile collection teams and to test for the COVID-19 infectious disease. The KHS are ordered to create these application forms based on telephone communications with persons with symptoms of COVID-19 disease and persons without these symptoms, who were in high-risk contact with a person with a laboratory-proven COVID-19 diagnosis. With regard to the extraordinary measure of the Ministry of Health, these persons will also be contacted by students of medical faculties, who will reinforce the respective KHS, including the Tracking Call Centre.

III.

The KHS are ordered to send persons with symptoms of the COVID-19 disease and persons without these symptoms who were in high-risk contact with a person with a laboratory-proven COVID-19

diagnosis to the testing centers for the taking of samples. The KHS will determine the respective testing center based on available collection capacity. The KHS may also ensure collective via a mobile collection team at the person's place of residence.

IV.

All testing centers and mobile collection teams are ordered to collect samples based on the issued application forms and to submit the collected samples to the parties operating laboratories which test samples for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus (hereinafter referred to as the "laboratories"). The KHS, in cooperation with the ZZS, are ordered to coordinate the distribution of collected samples to the laboratories based on available capacities. If the capacity of the laboratories is full, the KHS and ČRT may order the redistribution of the collected samples in cooperation with the regional army command, fire rescue brigade or other components of the integrated rescue system.

V.

The testing centers are ordered to register the number of performed collections on an ongoing basis, at least twice per day, and to inform about their capacity via the online Covid Forms App (<https://crt-covid-19-forms.army.cz>).

VI.

Laboratories are ordered to register the current number of requests to test samples for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus on an ongoing basis, at least twice per day, via the online Covid Forms App (<https://crt-covid-19-forms.army.cz>). Laboratories are also ordered to register, at least once per day and in the manner pursuant to the first sentence, the total number of all tested samples for the previous day, the total number of all positive results for the previous day, and the number of samples indicated for testing by the given healthcare service provider within which the laboratory provides healthcare services.

VII.

All laboratories are permitted to accept only samples which they are capable of evaluating within 48 hours based on their available capacity. If their capacity is exceeded, they are ordered to inform ČRT, which will coordinate the redistribution of samples.

VIII.

The KHS and ZZS are ordered to continuously inform themselves about the capacity of the testing centers and laboratories via the online portal <https://chk.nakit.cz/>.

IX.

Registering healthcare services providers in the field of general medicine and general paediatric medicine are ordered to indicate a test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus and to submit information about the indication for testing to the locally competent KHS in accordance with Section 62(1) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., in conjunction with Section 1(5) of Decree No. 306/2012 Coll., on the conditions of preventing the occurrence and spreading of infectious diseases and the hygienic requirements for operating healthcare facilities and social care institutions, as amended by Decree No. 244/2017 Coll. The registering provider of healthcare services in the field of general medicine and general paediatric medicine will subsequently receive information about the most available testing center from the KHS.

X.

This extraordinary measure takes effect on 20 April 2020.

Rationale:

This extraordinary measure is issued in connection to implementing measures to limit the spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the novel coronavirus, identified as SARS-CoV-2, in the Czech Republic, and the deployment of the forces and resources of the Army of the Czech Republic and other components of the Czech integrated rescue system in resolving the adverse development of the epidemiological situation around the COVID-19 disease in Europe. It stipulates control mechanisms for sample collections on the level of the region, KHS and ZZS to limit the ineffective use of testing center capacities and laboratory capacities processing the collected samples. Overall, this mechanism will contribute favorably to accelerating activities ensuring the testing of the population and the swifter evaluation of samples and identification of infected persons in the Czech population.

The aim of this extraordinary measure is to ensure a thorough overview of the circulation of samples within the Smart Quarantine system, the number of samples taken at testing centers of all types, their distribution to laboratories of all types and potential redistribution if the capacities of testing centers or laboratories in the given region are full. In this connection, the capacities and workload of both testing centers and laboratories are also monitored, depending on the possible escalation of the disease in the district/region - identification of high-risk localities.

Foreseeing “high-risk localities” where the number of positive cases and exposure may be expected to rise will then allow the timely and strategic distribution of forces and resources of the IZS and Army of the Czech Republic, including mobile collection teams.

Through NAKIT, s. p. in cooperation with the Army of the Czech Republic, the Smart Quarantine web portal (**chk.nakit.cz**) was created, which aggregates both information from the KHS (provided to the portal via the Institute of Health Information and Statistics of the Czech Republic) and data obtained via the Covid Forms App (completed by laboratories and testing centers), or members of the Army of the Czech Republic as agreed via telephone (in the case of an absence of an internet connection). Through this portal, the region, KHS and ZZS (based on the diagram) will receive detailed information about the possible occurrence of high-risk localities within their territories and the capacities of testing centers and laboratories, which will help effectively manage and coordinate the distribution of collected samples to ensure their swift evaluation.

With the launch of full operations of the online Covid Forms App (<https://crt-covid-19-forms.army.cz>), from 15 April 2020 information will no longer be collected via telephone calls conducted with the dispatching of the COVID-19 Central Management Team.

Information will be provided from 15 April 2020 through the individual testing centres via the web application on an ongoing basis (minimally twice per day).

If an internet connection is not available, information will be collected via telephone from the affected entity to the dispatcher of the COVID-19 Central Management Team, at the same times as specified in the previous paragraphs to the following telephone numbers:

+420 973 295 952, +420 973 213 286.

Under this extraordinary measure, the Ministry of Health unifies the nation-wide mechanism of cooperation

between all the regions, KHS, ZZS, testing centers and laboratories with the COVID-19 Central Management Team within the Smart Quarantine system, to provide the required information in order to make the anti-epidemic measures more effective.

The immediate implementation of this measure is required for an adequate and swift assessment of risks, given the present adverse epidemiological situation in terms of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease, which is why it shall take effect on the date of its issue.

Mgr. et Mgr. Adam Vojtěch, MHA

Minister of Health

Signed electronically

Pg. 4 of 4

Electronic signature - 17 April 2020

Certificate of signature author:

Name: Mgr. et Mgr. Adam Vojtěch, MHA

Issued by: PostSignum Qualified C...

Valid through: 25 December 2020 14:14:59-000 +01:0