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 the amendment 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)(b) 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.

Effective from 12:00 a.m. on 1 September 2020 until the repealing of this extraordinary measure, all healthcare services providers in the fields of general practical medicine and pediatric practical medicine, all regional public health authorities and the City of Prague Public Health Authority, are ordered to proceed to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 epidemic, in that

1. all persons who have a positive RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus (hereinafter a “positively tested person”) shall be ordered into isolation pursuant to Section 2(6) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll. for a period of minimally 10 days from the collection of the diagnostic sample which proved the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The isolation shall be terminated after the passing of minimally 10 days for persons who do not show any clinical symptoms of the COVID-19 disease. Persons who show clinical symptoms of the COVID-19 disease will remain in isolation for the duration of the clinical symptoms of disease, and isolation will be terminated after the passing of at least another 3 days, when the person no longer shows clinical symptoms of the disease or if the lasting clinical symptoms can be explained otherwise. However, the total isolation may be no less than 10 days. Isolation is terminated without performing a RT-PCR test, except for workers in healthcare or social services;

2. all workers in healthcare and social services terminate isolation based on a negative RT-PCR test performed no sooner than 10 days from the collection of the diagnostic sample which proved the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and simultaneously after the passing of at least 3 days when the given persons no longer show clinical symptoms of disease. In the case of a positive test result, a sample will be taken for repeated RT-PCR testing in 5 days from the collecting of the sample for the last positive test. In the case of a repeated positive RT-PCR test result, alternative testing will be conducted (e.g. LAMP - loop-mediated isothermal amplification, an antigen test or cultivated proof of the virus in specialised laboratories). In the case of a negative result in the alternative test and the absence of clinical symptoms of COVID-19 disease, this person will be considered non-infectious and isolation will be terminated.
3. all persons who were identified as persons who were exposed to the positively tested person based on epidemiological investigation shall be ordered into quarantine pursuant to Section 2(7) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll. for at least 10 days from their last contact with the positively tested person. The first RT-PCR test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus among persons who were ordered into quarantine shall be conducted within 1 - 5 days from their last contact with the positively tested person. The collection of samples for the second RT-PCR shall be conducted no sooner than 10 days from the last contact with the positively tested person. In the case of a negative result of the second RT-PCR test and absence of clinical symptoms of COVID-19 disease, quarantine may be terminated. In the case of a positive RT-PCR test result, isolation pursuant to point 1 will be ordered;

4. persons who need to confirm their non-infectiousness, whose isolation was terminated and who have a repeatedly positive result of the RT-PCR for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 virus, shall undergo alternative testing, e.g. a LAMP, antigen test or cultivated proof of the virus in specialised laboratories.

II.

III.
This extraordinary measure takes effect on the date it is issued.

Adam Vojtěch, MHA
Minister for Health
Signed electronically