



Prague, 30 March 2020

Ref. No.: MZDR 13894/2020-1/MIN/KAN



MZDRX019PJ77

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.

With effect from 31 March 2020, all persons are prohibited from moving about and staying in any location outside of their dwelling without protective respiratory equipment (nose, mouth), such as a respirator, face mask, mouthpiece, scarf, shawl or other device to prevent the spreading of droplets, with the exception of;

- children under the age of 2 years and
- drivers of motor vehicles who are alone in a closed vehicle.

II.

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 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-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 use protection against the spreading of droplets from the carriers of this disease so as to maximally limit the community transmission of COVID-19 disease. For this reason, moving about and staying in any location outside of the dwelling without protective respiratory equipment (nose, mouth), such as a respirator, face mask, mouthpiece, scarf, shawl or other device to prevent the spreading of droplets, is prohibited.

The extraordinary measure follows up on the currently valid crisis measures approved by the government, whereas it stipulates an exemption for very small children, for whom a face mask or similar guard could impede breathing, and for drivers who are alone in a closed vehicle where there is no risk of spreading droplets to another person.

Mgr. et Mgr. Adam Vojtěch, MHA

Minister of Health

Signed electronically

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