



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

Prague, 27 March 2020

Ref. No.: MZDR 13719/2020-1/MIN/KAN

MZDRX019OV0V

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 amending certain related acts, as amended (hereinafter referred to as “Act No. 258/2000 Coll.”), **orders**, proceeding pursuant to Section 69(1)(i) and (2) of Act No. 258/2000 Coll., on protecting the population and preventing the occurrence and spread of the COVID-19 disease caused by the novel SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, this Extraordinary Measure:

I.

All healthcare services providers providing aftercare and long-term in-patient care, social services providers providing services in facilities for handicapped persons, seniors’ homes and homes with a special regime, and social services providers providing alleviating services in an in-patient form are ordered, effective from 28 March 2020, to:

- 1. Set aside premises with bed capacity for separating persons to whom healthcare or social services (hereinafter referred to as “Services”) are being provided in their facilities and in whom the COVID-19 disease has been proven, operatively as the need arises, caused by the current epidemiological situation, and to ensure that those premises are clearly labelled;**
- 2. Ensure staffing for operation and provision of services in the area designated pursuant to paragraph 1 and ensure that the employees who come into contact with persons to whom services are being provided in their facility, and in whom the COVID-19 disease has been proven, not come into contact with other employees and persons living in their facility, provided that the staffing arrangements of the provider concerned allow this;**
- 3. Regularly monitor the health status of the persons to whom services are being provided in their facility (in particular, measure their bodily temperature and monitor them for signs of a respiratory illness) and, in the event of a suspicion of the COVID-19 disease, isolate those persons and immediately contact the relevant public health protection authority;**
- 4. Set hygienic and epidemiological measures to prevent the spread of the infectious COVID-19 disease in their facilities and update those hygienic and epidemiological measures according to the development of the epidemiological situation and in line with recommendations of the Ministry of Health.**

II.

This Extraordinary Measure shall take effect on the date of its issue.

Rationale:

This 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.

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.

Immediate implementation of the Measure is required for an adequate evaluation of the risk, with a view to the present adverse epidemiological situation in terms of the occurrence of the COVID-19 disease.

Healthcare services providers and providers of in-patient social services should take all anti-epidemiological measures possible to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 disease. Such measures may be considered to include measures pertaining to a modification of the mode of operation of the facilities, consisting primarily of maximum prevention of the transmission of the SARS-CoV2 virus infection, in particular by separating healthy people from those who are ill and adherence to necessary hygienic and epidemiological measures.

Timely identification of persons with the COVID-19 disease requires regular monitoring of the health status of persons treated in in-patient facilities and, if risk factors are detected, the rapid separation of such persons from others and ensuring that the risk is reported to a competent local public health protection authority.

To prevent the spread of the infection, it is also necessary to ensure that staff are designated who will care exclusively for persons with the COVID-19 disease, who will be situated in separate premises of the facility. To ensure sufficient staffing, it is also possible to take advantage of the work obligation ordered for students preparing for medical professions and for work in social services.

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

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