

Czech Republic – Report on COV-19

Trade Unions help their members to deal with a complicated situation emerging from threats to health by the CORONA-virus. Answers to questions of the workers in health and social services regarding e.g. health and safety protection, ordered quarantine, closing of schools and their impact on working parents in healthcare and social services can be found on the website of Trade Union of the Health Service and Social Care of the Czech Republic (OSZSP CR) <http://www.zdravotnickeodbory.cz/cz/clanky/15-3-2020-koronavirus-a-pracovnepravni-souvislosti.aspx>.

Leaders of OSZSP CR, above all the president Dagmar Žitníková, are in frequent telephone contact with the prime minister, the minister of health, the leading public health officer, the minister of labour and social affairs, with regional representatives etc. Representatives of TU organizations in hospitals and social-care institutions are in mutual contacts with officials of OSZSP CR and with lawyers, and they solve topical situations and questions of the workers.

A permanent problem is lack of protective requisites, and also non-existent base stating which protective tools the workers in hospitals and social care institutions should have to be protected from the danger of the corona-virus.

<http://www.zdravotnickeodbory.cz/cz/default.aspx>

The government of the Czech Republic has decided about the measures presented in detail on the following websites:

<https://www.vlada.cz/cz/media-centrum/aktualne/vyhlaseni-nouzovaho-stavu-180234/>

<https://www.vlada.cz/cz/media-centrum/aktualne/aktualni-informace-ke-koronaviru-2019-ncov-179250/>

Information on the webpage of the ministry of Health:

<https://koronavirus.mzcr.cz/>

<https://onemocneni-aktualne.mzcr.cz/covid-19> - information about the number of the persons tested, ill with C-19, and the cured.

The government has decided that it is inevitable to appropriate capacities for seriously ill C-19 patients in hospitals.

It is forbidden to visit patients in hospitals. It is forbidden to fathers to be present at childbirths.

Planned surgical operations that can be postponed have been strictly limited.

Informatively:

Since Wednesday 11th March, all teaching at any type of school has been interrupted until retraction.

The state of emergency was declared on 12th March 2020 for at least 30 days (so far)

During the state of emergency, students of high schools and universities specialized in social care are obliged to provide care in social-care institutions.

During the state of emergency, clients of registered social-care homes are not allowed to leave the premises of the institutions.

Providers of social services are obliged to provide services in necessary amount, and to ensure protection of lives and health of persons.

During the state of emergency, students of general medicine and the last years of education for general nurses, child nurses, paramedics, assistants for protection and support of public health, and practical nurses have been in the state of working duty.

Since 13th March, all citizens coming back from risky regions must announce that fact to their general practitioners and spend 14 days in quarantine.

All cultural and other public events for general public have been cancelled. Operation of public libraries, wellness centres, sport centres, beauty salons etc. has been banned.

Since 14th March, there is no admission to the Czech Republic for all foreigners coming from the risky areas with COV occurrence, with just a few exceptions.

Internal protection of borders with Germany and Austria has been established (only a few border crossings have remained open), as well as internal air border; borders with Poland and Slovakia have been protected from their own initiative.

Restriction of presence of general public in places like swimming pools and tourist information centres has been applied ever more. All retail in open-air markets and fun-fairs has been banned.

Restaurants are not open for general public, they only sell take-away meals.

All shops have been closed with the exception of food-stores, chemists' and pharmacies.

All visits in prisons have been banned.

From 16th March to 24th March (so far) free movement of persons in the whole area of the Czech Republic has been restricted, with a few exceptions.

Modification of operation of shops with the exception of food, medicines, building materials, haberdashery (production of home-made masks).

Since 16th March, there has been no admission for all foreigners (with a few exceptions). It is not permitted to travel out of the Czech Republic (with a few exceptions).

Conductors do not sell tickets on the trains of the Czech Railway; if there is no possibility of electronic operation, the passenger is allowed to travel without a ticket.

Operation of day care centres in social care has been stopped.

Since 16th March healthcare workers have not been allowed to take their holiday during the state of emergency.

Since 17th March it is not permitted to export medicines appointed for the needs of the Czech Republic.

Since 18th March all visits to hospitals and social-care institutions have been banned.

Since 19th March it has been strictly forbidden to anyone to go or stay anywhere out of home without a mask covering mouth and nose.

Since 19th March spas have not been allowed to receive new clients.

Since 20th March persons over 65 years of age have been having a possibility to do their shopping in retail food stores and at chemist's from 7 to 9 a.m.

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