What is your testing policy and why? (who, when, where and why?)

Latvia
In Latvian prisons, a prisoner is considered to have a COVID-19 infection, material taken is sent to the National Reference Laboratory. Testing is performed at the expense of the state budget. The answer is provided within 24-48 hours and the person is notified.

Estonia
In Estonian prisons, if a prisoner is suspected of having a COVID-19 infection, material taken is sent to the National Reference Laboratory. Testing is performed at the expense of the state budget. The answer is provided within 24-48 hours and the person is notified.

Spain
In Spanish Prison Service, we are testing new inmates when there are reasons to consider they can have COVID-19. The policy is to test these inmates and the ones which were in contact with them. Usually, the test are made by prison sanitary services. Also, officers were declared priority group to be tested.

Austria
In Austria, inmates are tested before transfer from the access departments. Furthermore, in case of suspicion of an infection (staff/inmate), testing is always carried out in coordination with the responsible health authority. However, collective tests are also carried out by the Austrian prison medical service. Some prisons also have sufficient capacity of their own to carry out tests independently.

Czechia
In the Czech prison system, RT-PCR tests are performed in the following situations: all newly admitted inmates; inmates with symptoms compatible with COVID-19; inmates with fever and infected in close contact with other inmates that have tested positive; inmates who have recently returned from abroad; inmates who develop symptoms after the results of the test. Testing is conducted by health staff regularly working the prison and sent to the appointed laboratories as needed. The reasons for this are that they are in contact with the inmate who is confirmed to have the disease or are in contact with an inmate who has recently returned from abroad.

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In Estonian prisons all visits have resumed to where they were pre-COVID, while following all hygiene and disinfection measures. Before entering a prison is checked with a no-touch thermometer and in case of cold-like symptoms is denied entry. Please find detailed information on the long-term (up to 24 hrs) family visit policy from our homepage https://www.vangla.ee/en/communication-prisoners/long-term-visit.