



## COVID-19 Feedback Collection 30 July 2020



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

Latvia	In Latvian prisons, if a prisoner is suspected of having a Covid-19 infection, material is taken from the nostrils and throat for analysis on the Covid-19. The material is sent to the National Reference Laboratory. Testing is performed at the expense of the state budget. The answer is provided within 24 -36 hours to both the prison and the Center for Disease Prevention and Control of the Ministry of Health.
Estonia	In Estonian prisons in case of fever, cough or other cold-like symptoms, the person (staff or prisoner) is always tested. Also, in all prisons once a week, a random sample testing of staff takes place, in order to detect possible asymptomatic carriers and prevent the emergence of a C-19 outbreak. In both cases prison medical department performs the tests and sends the samples to the National Laboratory for analysis. Staff members with symptoms are most often referred for testing by his/her general practitioner (GP).
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.
France	National orientations have been given by the Health Department; - New inmates : tests are systematically organized on the 7th day. If negative, the quarantine can be lifted. If positive, isolation is organized in a dedicated part of the prison. FYI, we (i.e. the penitentiary administration) would prefer new detainees to be tested on the very first days upon arrival: some medical staffs plan it this way (on their own decision). But the national orientations by the Health dept are the 7th day (as mentioned above). I can also mention that the CPT has visited France to assess the procedures followed during the COVID: the CPT also recommends tests to be achieved on the 1st day upon arrival. - Otherwise, for the other detainees, tests are also decided by the medical staff in case of doubts, or if the detainees present some symptoms. Other precisions: - If a detainee is positive (clinically assessed or assessment with a test), all the penitentiary staff members have to be tested; detainees in contact with the detainees have to be tested. - If a penitentiary staff member is tested positive: all
Slovenia	Health Service in Slovenian prisons is provided by the Public Health Network; access to testing and treatment for COVID-19 is equivalent to that of general population. All inmates with particular symptoms are tested when the doctor who operates in the prison decides so. Decision about implementation of quarantine is also handed over to the doctor. If test is negative, the quarantine is lifted.
Finland	Prisoners, who have symptoms associated with coronavirus, or who have reasons to suspect a coronavirus infection, are being tested. Since prisons in Finland do not have any coronavirus cases at the moment, prisoners without symptoms are not being tested. The situation is evaluated as necessary if the epidemic occurs in any of the prisons. Prisoners are tested in an outside healthcare facility in accordance with the recommendations of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare. The Health Care Services for Prisoners is preparing to conduct the tests in prisons at the end of August the earliest. However, the Health Care Services for Prisoners will only take the samples, and the analysis will continue to be conducted in the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.
Catalonia	In the Catalan prison system RT-PCR tests are performed in the following situations: All newly arrived inmates; Inmates with symptoms compatible with covid-19 as assessed by health staff; Inmates that have been in close contact with other inmates that have tested positive as assessed by health staff. While waiting for the results, the inmates that have been tested are being placed in quarantine in different dedicated units in the prison to prevent potential spread. The testing is conducted by the health staff regularly working the prison and sent to the appointed labs as it is done with the testing carried out with people in the community. Prison staff are being tested according to the health authorities criteria applicable in the community which are quite similar.
Northern Ireland	Staff: We have a testing procedure in place (from 09/04/2020) where all staff and their household members who become COVID-19 symptomatic can be tested through 2 dedicated test sites (one in Belfast and one in Ballymena). Testing is managed by the NIPS Fusion Cell in HQ, with a single point of contact within each prison/PECCS and NIPS HQ.. Testing is completed through the Belfast and Northern Health and Social Care Trusts. NIPS staff are encouraged not to use the online testing service due to security issues and uncertainty around the reliability of self-tests. Prisoners: All symptomatic prisoners and new committals are tested for COVID-19. We have had no confirmed COVID-19 cases within our prison population since testing began
Sweden	Staff – We do not conduct any testing of staff through the SPPS. Our staff members can get tested through ordinary health care facilities around the country. Inmates – We conduct tests on all clients that are showing symptoms. This is done through PCR-testing and has been successful in most parts of the country. However, the laboratory capacity in some regions has been limited and therefore delayed the testing. PCR-testing is also conducted on inmates admitted to one of our prisons directly from the outside. Inmates that arrive straight from another prison or from a remand-prison are not tested unless they are showing symptoms. New admissions, without symptoms, to the remand-prisons are not tested. The reason for this is that they are in seclusion to the extent that we can monitor them during their quarantine time. We are also trying out testing for antibodies within the prisons in the Stockholm region. The reason for that region is that we have had the infection in many of these facilities. An assessment of the antibody testing will be conducted, considering the results from the testing in Stockholm. After the assessment has been conducted, a policy decision will be made on whether or not the antibody testing will be rolled out to the all prisons around the country. The reason for testing is that we are following the advice from the Public Health Agency of Sweden. According to the Public Health Agency of Sweden anyone who have been verified to have antibodies or who have been cured after testing positive on a PCR-test should be immune from the infection for at least six month. Therefore we will be able to ease the restrictions for inmates with antibodies or who has been cured after a verified infection.
Czechia	The testing policy for prisoners does not differ from the policy applied to general society/population. The rules (criteria for testing) are set by the Ministry of Health (MoH). 1) Prisoners: the Prison Service itself can perform testing (only in particular prisons, see below) or a mobile public-health-and-hygiene-authority team is called; 2) Personnel: mostly their GPs (general practitioners) or regional public-health-and-hygiene authorities ensure testing; not the Prison Service. * Who is tested? - Everyone showing indication criteria (see below); - Epidemiologically significant contacts; - Individuals with Covid-19; - Individuals in quarantine; - Inmates to be extradited from the Czech Republic (quick serological testing); * When to be tested? - Suspected cases among inmates: immediately after suspicion = meeting indication criteria (see below) - after consulting regional hygienic authorities, these ensure performing the tests with mobile test centres; - prisoners can be escorted to testing sites/centres; - testing can be performed within certain Prison Service's health centres in prisons (health personnel are Prison Service's staff). - Suspected cases among personnel - immediately after suspicion = meeting indication criteria (see below) - tested after recommendation of their GPs (testing mostly done by external bodies - not the Prison Service); - after consultation with the public-health-and-hygiene authorities; - usually in established testing centres (see below). - (Re-)testing is done in given time intervals (by the MoH) for individuals isolated because of their Covid-19 positivity; - in given time intervals for individuals in quarantine; - before extradition from the CZE. * Where? - Specialized testing centres established by the MoH - public health authorities (hospitals); - private laboratories. - Within Prison Service's facilities - mobile testing units (of public health authorities); - by Prison Service health personnel – only in particular prisons. * Why (reasons to be tested): - suspected cases meeting indication criteria set by the Ministry of Health (see below); - epidemiologically significant contacts - based on public-health-and-hygiene authorities' tracing and assessment; - ill individuals isolated because of Covid-19; - individuals at the end of the quarantine period; - before extradition (quick antibodies test); * The clinical criteria (reason to be tested for SARS-CoV-2 using RT-PCR tests), as of today, are: - body temperature > 37.3 °C; - dry cough; - shortness of breath; - indigestion; - loss of smell and taste; - if these symptoms cannot be clearly clarified.

### What is your long-term (up to 24 hrs) family visit policy?

Lithuania	The Lithuanian Prison Department has reopened short term contactless visits, but the restrictions re. long-term family visits (up to 24 hrs with physical contact) are still in place to prevent C-19. The authorities are considering to no longer grant long-term family visits after C-19 emergency, but exchange them with home leaves instead.
Estonia	In Estonian prisons all visits have resumed to where they were pre-COVID, while following all hygiene and disinfection requirements. Also, everyone 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>