What is your long-term (up to 24 hrs) family visit policy? (who, when, where and why?)

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.

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 24-48 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.

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/innmate), 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. PM, we (i.e. the penitentiary administration) would prefer new detainees to be tested on the very first days upon arrival: some medical staff plan 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 procedure 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 precautions: - if a detainee is positively diagnosed: in case of a positive result (clinically assessed or assessed 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 the penitentiary staff members of the prison have to be tested.

Slovenia
Health Service in Slovenian prisons is provided by the Public Health Network; access to testing for C-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 quarantines is also handed over to the doctor. If it 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 at 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 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 lab 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 03/04/2020) where all staff and their household members who become COVID-19 symptomatic can be tested through 2 dedicated test sites (one in Bellaghy and one in Ballymena). Testing is being 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 commitments 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 healthcare 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 part 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 correctional facility are not test unless they are showing symptoms. New admissions without symptoms, to the C-19 unit, are isolated either in their cell until their test result arrive or after 5-7 days. The reason for this is that they are in exclusion 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. For this reason that is there is that we have 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 all the 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 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 months. Therefore we will be able to ease the restrictions for inmates with antibodies who have 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 (MH). 1) Prisoners: the Prison Service itself can perform testing (only in particular prisons, see below) or a mobile public-health unit (PÚP) can do it. If necessary, the PÚP can be sent to the prison, or inmates can be transferred to a hospital. 2) Personnel: mostly their GP’s (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 - Inmates with symptoms - Inmates with high contact risk - Inmates with specific anamneses
*Why is testing to be done? - Suspected case; - Immediate after suspicion: meeting indication criteria (see below) - After consulting regional health authorities, these ensure performing the tests with mobile test centres; - prisoners can be tested by their prison doctor.
*How is testing to be performed? - testing can be performed within certain Prison Service’s health centres in prisons (health personnel are Prison Service’s staff); - suspect cases among personnel - immediately after suspicion; - meeting indication criteria (see below).
*Where - Specialized testing centres established by the MH – public health authorities (hospital, private laboratories). - In prison’s facilities - mobile testing units (of public health authorities) - by Prison Service health personnel – only in particular prisons.

Why (reasons to be tested) – suspected case meeting indication criteria set by the Ministry of Health (MH); epidemiologically significant contacts - based on public-health and hygiene authorities’ tracing and assessment; - all individuals isolated because of COVID-19; - all individuals at the end of the quarantine period; - before extraction (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; - these symptoms cannot be clarified clearly.

Slovakia
Prison officers and inmates are currently being tested as follows:
1. On the basis of the regulation of the Public Health Authority (note: nose and throat swab; PCR-RNA test; covered from the National Health Insurance); tested persons are mainly prison victims of the confirmed COVID-19 cases or persons who arrived from risk countries no later than the 5th day after their arrival to Slovakia.
2. On the basis of the decision of the prison general practitioner (finger-prick test; determination of IgM and IgG antibodies; covered by the prison service); tested persons are those with symptoms of respiratory disease, who may have been in contact with confirmed COVID-19 cases (arrival from the risk country, if the PCR-RNA test has not been already ordered by the Public Health Authority; or alternatively these persons live in the region with the increased occurrence of the positive COVID-19 cases) or other significantly increased risk of infection that was stated in their case assessment. At present, there is carried out no spread screening on COVID-19 of prison officer, inmates or all inmates on the base of a recommendation of the Public Health Authority (finger-prick test; PCR-RNA tests; covered from the National Health Insurance) and the prison’s self-testing. If symptoms of respiratory disease are observed, the inmates are tested by at least one of the following methods: PCR-RNA test. In case of positive test, isolation is organized in a dedicated part of the prison. FYI, we (i.e. the penitentiary administration) are following the advice from the Public Health Agency of Sweden. According to the Public Health Agency of Sweden anyone who have been 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 months. Therefore we will be able to ease the restrictions for inmates with antibodies who have been cured after a verified infection.

Netherlands
The guidelines provided by National Institute for Public Health and the Environment are followed. This means that when a detainee shows mild symptoms of a C-19 infection he/she is being tested in prison.
Regardless of the measures related to the COVID-19, the current valid legislation of the Slovak Republic regulating the prison sentence execution does not allow 24-hour visits of inmates (as, long-term family visits) in the premises of the prison facility (i.e., with joint accommodation of inmates and civilians). It should be stated that CPT has not objected to such national legislation during its regular visits. At the same time, in addition to a significant security risk, their possible implementation is also hindered by material-technical conditions related to the long-term filled accommodation capacities of convicts. Other problems can be related to ensuring e.g., hygiene or possibly other organizational-technical, moral and ethical issues.

Netherlands

Long-term family visits are not allowed.