

France

Slovenia

Northern Ireland

Sweden

Czechia

Slovakia

Netherlands

COVID-19 Feedback Collection 5 August 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

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.

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 if assess the procedures followed during the COvid: the CPT also recommends tests to be achieved on the 1rst day upon arrival. - Otherwise, for the other detainees, tests are also decided by the medical staffin case of doubts, or if the detainees present some symptoms. Other precisions of the precisions is positive (clinically assessed or assessment with a test), all the penitentiary staff members have to be tested. - If a penitentiary staff member is tested positive: all the penitentiary staff members of the prison have to be tested.

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 not vake 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.

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 confirm the prison population since testing began

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 of the antibody testing 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. According to 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

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 publichealth-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. Prison officers and inmates are currently being tested as follows:

1. On the basis of a regulation of the Public Health Authority (nose and throat swab; PCR-RNA tests; covered from the public health insurance); tested persons are mainly proven direct contacts 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 a recommendation of the Public Health Authority (finger-prick tests; determination of IgM and IgG antibodies; covered by the prison service); tested persons are mainly probable contacts of the confirmed COVID-19 cases. 3. On the basis on the decision of the prison general practitioner (finger-prick tests; 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 obtaining this infection was stated by their case anamnesis. At present, there is carried out no spread screening on COVID-19 of prison officer, inmates on admission to prisons (to serve pre-trial detention/prison sentence) are separated from other inmates for the first 14 days after their admission (modified performance of quarantine), if the capacity of the particular prison allows that.

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.

Israel Prison Service has been recognized by the health authorities as an organization with top priority to conduct tests. Our policy to conduct tests is as follow: *Every new prisoner coming from the outside is being held in quarantine and tested; *Prisoners who has been exposed to a nifected prisoner or staff member is tested; *Every staff member who has been exposed to an infected person is tested; *Every day we preform random tests for inmates and staff member. We perform a few thousand tests per week.

Norway

In the Norwegian prisons, inmates that show symptoms of Covid-19 are tested, like any other member of society. Testing is normally done by the prisons' health departmentt. Since the national outbreak in March, the threshold for testing has gone down.

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

Lithunia 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

Sweden the Swedish Prison and Probation Service (SPPS) has decided to open for visits outdoors at minimum security prisons from 1 September. Regarding family visits long-term no policy is taken. An assessment for further prison visits will be conducted and the SPPS is especially assessing the

rights of the children based on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

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 (so, long-term family visits) in the premises of the prison facility (i.e. with joint accommodation of Slovakia

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.

We allow only short visit, up to an hour, as of now for 2 family members. Israel Belgium We allow only short visit, up to an hour, as of now for 2 family members.

As of 22 June, inmates will again be allowed to receive visits. Before a visit can take place, the visitor shall be interviewed according to the questionnaire/survey form to prevent the spread of Corona. Inmates and visitors must comply with the current distance- and hygiene rules. As of yet,

Norway overnight stay at visitors' lodges where these are present, is not allowed.

Poland We allow only short visit (1 h), 1 family member or any other close person (without children). People are separated by plexiglass. Ireland The Irish Prison Service currently allow one physical 15 minute visit (for one person) and one video visit per fortnight per prisoner.

Are there any special restriction for detainees in Detention Centres during the pandemic?

We have moved to a landing based regime in all of our prisons and this has been in place since late March 2020. This restricts prisoner movement within the prison to the landing, but allows activity, association with social distancing applied, to go ahead and outside exercise for small Northern Ireland groups with social distancing. Prisoners who start to show symptoms that may be COVID-19 are moved to the isolation area for a period of 10 days and tested for COVID-19. If a negative test is received, the prisoner remains in the isolation area for the full period.

Is the detention center open for new detainees to arrive? Upon arrival do you preform tests?

* Every new prisoner coming from the outside is being held in quarantine for 14 days and tested.

*The doctor of the prison decide if the prisoner who has symptoms has to be tested.

Belgium * Prisoners who has been exposed to a an infected prisoner or staff member have to stay in guarantine and can be tested.

We continue to take new committals into our prisons. All prisoners who are newly committed to prison during the pandemic must complete 14 days isolation in a specific isolation area within each prison. They are tested for COVID-19 within 48 hours of arrival, but must complete the full

Northern Ireland isolation period

Is the detention center open for volunteers? Lawyers? Parole officers? Citizens?

No. We took the decision to restrict people entering the prison to our staff and Prison Healthcare Staff in March 2020. We also removed physical visits to prisoners at that time and in early April introduced virtual visits using Zoom technology. Prisoners can contact family and legal Northern Ireland

representatives through telephone or Zoom. We started to reintroduce limited face to face visits from the 27 July 2020, but uptake has been low.

Are there Conjugal visits in these days?

NIPS does not facilitate conjugal visits. Northern Ireland

How does the staff work?

We have put robust cleaning regimes in place, with temporary handwashing stations in each establishment. Good hand and respiratory hygiene is promoted, hand sanitizer is widely available and social distancing is applied where we can. Personal Protective Equipment is available for use when appropriate, for example, in the isolation areas. We continue to facilitate our staff to self-isolate if they become symptomatic, or if a member of their household becomes symptomatic, or if they are identified as a close contact of someone who is COVID-19 positive. Staff are offered

Northern Ireland testing and we also facilitate testing for their family/household. Even with a negative result, staff are required to complete the requisite isolation period. This has been very important in keeping COVID-19 out of our prisons.