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

Slovenia
In Slovenia, inmates are tested before transfer from the access departments. Furthermore, in case of suspicion of an infection (staff member), testing is always carried out in coordination with the local public health authorities. 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, i.e., the penitentiary administration, would then need 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. Otherwise: if a detainee is positive (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.

Slovakia
Health Service in Slovakian 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 not positive, the quarantine is lifted.

Latvia
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 be conducted in the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.

In the Latvian prison system RT-PCR tests are performed in the following situations: All newly arrived inmates: inmates with symptoms compatible with covid-19 are tested by health staff. Inmates who 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 dedicated in the prison to prevent potential spread. The testing is conducted by the health staff that 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 tested according to the health authorities criteria applicable in the community which are quite similar.

Finland
Prisoners with symptoms associated with coronaviruses, 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 be conducted in the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare.

In Catalonia, the prison system RT-PCR tests are performed in the following situations: All newly arrived inmates: inmates with symptoms compatible with covid-19 are tested by health staff. Inmates who 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 dedicated in the prison to prevent potential spread. The testing is conducted by the health staff that 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 tested according to the health authorities criteria applicable in the community which are quite similar.

In Austria, inmates are tested before transfer from the access departments. Furthermore, in case of suspicion of an infection (staff member), 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.

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

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 team of a public-health-authority can be called (in a few exceptional cases). (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);

* Policy to be tested? - Suspected cases and inmates immediately after suspicion; meeting indication criteria (see below) after consulting regional public health authorities, these ensure performing the tests with mobile test centres; - prisoners can be tested to site/centre; - testing can be performed within the prison, on demands of inmates; - 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); - testing conducted by the Prison Service’s staff (including inmates); - consultation with the public health and-hygiene authorities; - consultation with the Ministry of Health.

* Where? - Specialized testing centres established by the Ministry (public health authorities); - private locations; - Prison Service’s staff; - mobile public health teams (for testing in the prison, if necessary); - in hospitals (if necessary for serious cases); - outside (by the public health authorities).

* Why (reasons to be tested): - suspected case meeting indication criteria set by the Ministry (see above); - epidemiologically significant contacts - based on public health and-hygiene authorities’ tracing and assessment; - laboratory diagnosis (COVID-19) (including PCR tests); - persons with symptoms (including contacts with a known COVID-19 case); - being transported to the outside (e.g., to the hospital for medical treatment).

* When? - Testing is conducted immediately if possible; - testing is conducted several times a day; - before extradition (quick serological tests); - in case of fever, cough, shortness of breath; - 3-7 days after the appearance of symptoms; - according to the indication criteria.

* 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.

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 c-19 infection he/she is being tested in prison.

Israel
Israel Prison Service has been recognized by the Ministry of Health as a high priority testing site. Our policy to conduct tests is: *Every new prisoner coming into the facility is being held in quarantine and tested. *Prisoners who has been exposed to an infected prisoner or staff member is tested. *Every day we perform 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 department. 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?

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 are changing them with home exchanges instead.

In Estonia 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 in the report below.

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

Laos
In Laotian 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 hours to both the Ministry of Justice and the Public Health Authority for Disease Prevention and Control of the Ministry of Health.
Sweden

The Swedish Prison and Probation Service (SPPS) has decided to open for visits outdoors at minimum security prisons from 1 September. 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.

Slovakia

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 (i.e. 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.

Israel

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

Belgium

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

Norway

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, 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 restrictions for detainees in Detention Centres during the pandemic?

Northern Ireland

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 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 perform tests?

Belgium

* 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.

Northern Ireland

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

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

Northern Ireland

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 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?

Northern Ireland

NIPS does not facilitate conjugal visits.

How does the staff work?

Northern Ireland

- 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 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.