



Enforcement of the Infection Protection Act (IfSG)

Quarantine of contact persons and persons suspected of being infected with coronavirus, isolation of persons who have tested positive for the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 (General Ruling on Isolation)

Announcement of the Bavarian State Ministry of Health and Care dated 14 April 2021, ref.G51s-G8000-2021/505-38

In accordance with Section 28 sub-para. 1 sentence 1, Section 29 sub-para 1 and 2 and Section 30 sub-para 1 sentence 2 of the Infection Protection Act (IfSG) in conjunction with Section 65 sentence 2 no. 2 of the Responsibilities Ordinance (ZustV), the Bavarian State Ministry of Health and Care hereby issues the following

General Ruling:

1. Definitions

Unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this general ruling apply to the following persons (persons affected):

- 1.1 Persons who have been informed by the health authorities that, due to their close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case, they are close contact persons who have an increased risk of infection according to the currently valid criteria of the Robert Koch Institute (close contact persons).
- 1.2 Persons
 - a) whose antigen test for the direct detection of SARS-CoV-2 (antigen test), which was not carried out by a healthcare professional or a comparable person trained for this purpose, yields a positive result, or
 - b) who have symptoms of disease indicating an infection with SARS-CoV-2, and for whom either the health authority has ordered molecular biological (PCR) testing for SARS-CoV-2 or who have undergone molecular biological (PCR)



testing for SARS-CoV-2 following the positive result of the antigen test or following medical advice because of the signs of the disease (persons suspected of being infected).

- 1.3 Persons who were after 14 April 2021 informed by the health authority, by the person who performed the test or by the body evaluating the test that a molecular biological test (PCR test) carried out on them by a healthcare professional or a comparable person trained for this purpose or an antigen test carried out on them by a healthcare professional or a comparable person trained for this purpose produced a positive result (persons tested positive) and who are neither close contact persons as defined under No. 1.1 nor persons suspected of being infected as defined under No. 1.2.

2. Rules on quarantine and isolation

2.1 Order for quarantine or isolation

2.1.1 Quarantine for close contact persons

2.1.1.1 Close contact persons must go into quarantine immediately after being notified by the health authority as per No. 1.1, if no other instructions are issued by the competent local authority. The health authority will record the contact details and notify the contact persons without delay in writing or electronically of the measures to be taken.

2.1.1.2 The quarantine obligation as per No. 2.1.1.1 does not apply, subject to sentence 3, to

- a) close contact persons who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (as from day 15 after the final vaccination),
- b) close contact persons displaying no immune responses who have recovered from a PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection and have been vaccinated with one vaccine dose (as from the day of the vaccination), and



- c) close contact persons who have recovered from a PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, if the relevant test was carried out at least 28 days and at most six months previously.

Proof of vaccination and proof of the previous SARS-CoV-2 infection must be submitted to the health authority upon request. If the persons referred to in sentence 1 show typical symptoms of infection with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, such as a cough, fever or loss of taste and smell, within 14 days of close contact with the confirmed case of COVID-19, the responsible health authority must be informed immediately. The health authority can decide differently in individual cases and order quarantine.

- 2.1.2 Persons suspected of being infected must go into quarantine immediately after notification from the health authority about instructions for the test or, if no such instructions have been given, immediately after performance of the molecular biological (PCR) test. This applies even if a previously taken antigen test shows a negative result. The health authority, the doctor giving the consultation before the test or, in the case of No. 1.2 a), the person carrying out the (PCR) test, will inform the person suspected of being infected in writing or electronically about the obligation to go into quarantine. If a test is carried out by a doctor during a home visit or at the doctor's practice, the person suspected of being infected must be informed by the doctor of the obligation to undergo quarantine in writing or electronically when the test is taken by presentation of the main content of this general ruling and other materials. Persons suspected of being infected must be reported to the local health authority in accordance with Section 6 sub-para 1 sentence 1 no. 1 letter t IfSG.
- 2.1.3 Persons tested positive must go into isolation immediately after learning of their positive test result. The office announcing the test result will inform persons tested positive in writing or electronically about their obligation to isolate when the test result is announced. The notification obligations pursuant to Section 6 sub-para 1 sentence 1 no. 1 letter t and Section 7 sub-para 1 sentence 1 no. 44a IfSG remain unaffected by this. The person tested positive is obliged to report to the health authority responsible and supply information



about the test result, the type of test (PCR test or antigen test) and the date of the test.

- 2.2 Quarantine or isolation must take place in an apartment or other spatially delimited part of a building.
- 2.3 Close contact persons, persons suspected of being infected and persons tested positive may not leave the dwelling during the period of quarantine or isolation without the express consent of the health authority. They are permitted to spend a limited time on their own in or on a garden, terrace or balcony belonging to the dwelling. The dwelling may be left for the sole purposes of tests which, according to this general ruling, may be carried out in order to end quarantine or isolation, and for other tests ordered by the health authority.
- 2.4 During the entire period of domestic quarantine or isolation, a spatial or temporal separation from other persons living in the same household as the person affected must be ensured. A "temporal separation" can be achieved, for example, by taking meals not together but in turn. A "spatial separation" can be achieved, for example, by the person affected staying in a separate room to the other members of the household.
- 2.5 During quarantine or isolation, the person affected may not receive visits from persons who do not belong to the same household. The responsible local authority may take a different decision in substantiated individual cases.

3. Rules of hygiene during quarantine and isolation

- 3.1 The health authority will advise the close contact person, person suspected of being infected or the person tested positive and any other persons sharing their households and will inform them of appropriate hygiene and protection measures, in particular to prevent the further spread of the infections.
- 3.2 The directions of the health authority regarding hygiene and protection measures must be observed.



4. Measures during quarantine of close contact persons

- 4.1 The health authority should actively establish and stay in contact with close contact persons. Contact will be established by telephone or alternatively by electronic means of communication such as by email or other digital media.
- 4.2 During the period of quarantine, the close contact person must keep a diary in which to note their body temperature twice a day, if possible, and the course of signs of illness, if any, as well as general activities and contact with other persons. At the request of the health authority, the close contact person must provide information from the diary.
- 4.3 During domestic quarantine, the close contact person must let officials of the health authority carry out examinations (e.g. medical consultations and diagnostics) on them and collect samples for examination. This refers in particular to swabs from mucous membranes.
- 4.4 If the quarantine endangers the continuity of business operations in a company belonging to critical infrastructure or the service operations of a public authority despite the exhaustion of all organisational possibilities, such as the transfer of personnel from other areas, it is possible to make an exception to the quarantine order for close contact persons in individual cases, subject to adherence to infection hygiene requirements in order to protect other employees. The decision will be taken by the responsible local authority, possibly after consultation with the company doctor and the management of the plant or public authority.

5. Further rules of hygiene during quarantine and isolation

- 5.1 If close contact persons show signs of disease which are consistent with SARS-CoV-2 infection, or if the state of health of persons suspected of being infected deteriorates, they must contact the health authority immediately by telephone.
- 5.2 Should more extensive medical treatment or rescue transport become necessary during quarantine or isolation, the person affected must inform the healthcare facility or rescue service in advance by telephone of the reason for



the quarantine or isolation. The health authority must also be informed in advance.

- 5.3 Where the person affected is a minor or where a carer has been appointed by law, the primary carers are responsible for adherence to domestic quarantine or isolation.

6. End of the measures

6.1 End of quarantine for close contact persons

- 6.1.1 In the case of close contact persons, domestic quarantine ends, provided that the close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case is at least 14 days ago, none of the symptoms typical of COVID-19 were experienced during quarantine and a test which was carried out at the earliest 14 days after the last close contact (PCR test or antigen test, carried out by healthcare professionals or comparable persons trained for this purpose) yields a negative result, upon receipt of the negative test result.

In the other cases, the responsible local authority decides about the end of the quarantine period.

If the test result of the close contact person is positive, quarantine continues and the responsible local authority issues the necessary instructions. The instructions given under No. 6.3 apply with regard to the end of isolation.

- 6.1.2 Members of the household of a person infected with COVID-19 who do not fall ill, or do have respiratory symptoms but have tested negative for SARS-CoV-2 by molecular biological (PCR) testing, will be quarantined for at least 14 days after the onset of symptoms of the primary case, with asymptomatic primary cases for at least 14 days from the date of the swab producing initial proof of the virus, regardless of the occurrence of other cases in the household. Quarantine ends, provided that a test which was carried out at the earliest 14 days after the onset of symptoms or, given an asymptomatic primary case, 14 days after the swab was taken (PCR test or antigen test, carried out by healthcare professionals or comparable persons trained for this purpose) yields a nega-



tive result, upon receipt of the negative test result.

Otherwise, the responsible local authority decides about the end of the quarantine period in each case.

If the test result is positive, quarantine continues and the responsible local authority issues the necessary instructions. With regard to the end of isolation, if the test result is positive then the instructions given under No. 6.3 apply.

6.2 For persons suspected of being infected, domestic quarantine ends upon presentation of a negative result of a (PCR) test, but no later than the end of the fifth day after the day of the PCR test. The negative test result must be confirmed in writing or electronically at the request of the person suspected of being infected.

If the test result of the person suspected of being infected is positive, the isolation continues and the responsible local authority issues the necessary instructions. The instructions given under No. 6.3 apply with regard to the end of isolation.

6.3 End of isolation for persons tested positive

6.3.1 For persons who tested positive by means of an antigen test which was performed by a healthcare professional or a comparable person trained for this purpose, isolation ends, provided that the first molecular biological (PCR) test performed on such persons after the positive antigen test produces a negative result, with the presence of this negative test result.

6.3.2 For fully vaccinated, asymptomatic persons, isolation may be ended at the earliest 5 days after initial detection of the virus, if a PCR test carried out no sooner than day 5 after initial detection of the virus yields a negative result. The responsible local authority will issue the necessary instructions and decide when the isolation is to end.

6.3.3 For all other persons tested positive, isolation ends, in cases with asymptomatic disease progression, at the earliest 14 days after the initial detection of the virus and, in cases with mildly symptomatic disease progression, at the earliest 14 days after the onset of symptoms, subject to freedom from symp-



toms for at least 48 hours (defined as a sustained improvement of acute COVID-19 symptoms according to medical assessment). In both cases, for isolation to end an additional test carried out at the earliest on day 14 (PCR test or antigen test, performed by a healthcare professional or a comparable person trained for this purpose) must produce a negative result. The responsible local authority will issue the necessary instructions and decide when the isolation is to end.

7. Offences

Any violation of this General Ruling can be punished as an offence pursuant to Section 73 sub-para 1a no. 6 IfSG.

8. Immediate enforceability

The present General Ruling is immediately enforceable by law.

9. Effective date, expiry date

The present General Ruling takes effect on 15 April 2021 and expires on 31 August 2021 at midnight.