

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF DISEASE (COMPULSORY TESTING FOR CERTAIN PERSONS) REGULATION

Compulsory Testing Notice

I hereby exercise the power conferred on me by section 10(1) of the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (*the Regulation*) (Chapter 599, sub. leg. J) to:—

Category of Persons

- (I) specify any person who on the day the person arrives at Hong Kong, or during the 7 days before that day, has stayed in any place outside China, and is placed under medical surveillance for up to 4 days pursuant to a notification of medical surveillance issued under section 15 of the Prevention and Control of Disease Regulation (Chapter 599, sub. leg. A) (*Cap. 599A*) ^[Notes 1 and 2];

Requirements and Procedure for the Test

- (II) require every person who falls within the specified category in Part (I), and who is three years old or above on the date of arrival at Hong Kong, to undergo tests for coronavirus disease 2019 (*COVID-19*) (*the Specified Tests*) in compliance with the requirements set out below:—
- (a) polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test on the 2nd day following the person's arrival at Hong Kong ^[Notes 2 and 3] in compliance with the corresponding requirements for the Specified Tests as detailed at Annex;
 - (b) rapid antigen tests daily from the 1st day to the 5th day (both days inclusive) following the person's arrival at Hong Kong ^[Note 2] in compliance with the corresponding requirements for the Specified Tests using a rapid antigen test kit as detailed at Annex;
- (III) require every person who falls within the specified category in Part (I) to abide by the following requirements from the 1st day to the 5th day (both days inclusive) ^[Note 2] following the person's arrival at Hong Kong:—
- (a) if the person needs to leave the place of residence, must have undergone the Specified Test using a rapid antigen test kit for the day as required by Part (II)(b), and has confirmed the negative result;
 - (b) monitor his or her health condition, including taking body temperature twice daily; and
 - (c) take appropriate personal disease prevention measures including wearing a mask and maintaining hand hygiene;

Period Specified for the Purpose of Section 14(3)(b) of the Regulation

- (IV) specify in relation to the category of persons in Part (I) above the 30-day periods from the 2nd day, the 3rd day, the 4th day, the 5th day and the 6th day ^[Note 2] respectively following the person's arrival at Hong Kong or the 30-day periods from the day following the Extended Testing Period due to Inclement Weather ^[Note 5] as the periods during which a Compulsory Testing Order may be issued under the Regulation upon non-compliance with this Notice;

Appointment of Prescribed Person

- (V) appoint members of the Auxiliary Medical Service and all public officers of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to perform a function under the Regulation concerning a requirement specified under this Notice ^[Note 7].

G.N. (E.) 974 of 2022 will be suspended upon the commencement of the above specifications on 9 December 2022.

Note 1:—

Except for a person who is designated or falls within a category of persons designated under section 4(1) of the Compulsory Quarantine of Persons Arriving at Hong Kong from Foreign Places Regulation (Chapter 599, sub. leg. E) or the Compulsory Quarantine of Certain Persons Arriving at Hong Kong Regulation (Chapter 599, sub. leg. C).

For a person who is placed under isolation by an isolation order pursuant to section 23 of Cap. 599A and a person identified as a contact of COVID-19 who is placed under quarantine by a quarantine order pursuant to section 22 of Cap. 599A between the day of his or her arrival at Hong Kong and the 5th day of his or her arrival at Hong Kong (both days inclusive), this compulsory testing notice is not applicable.

Note 2:—

The dates following a person's arrival at Hong Kong are counted by taking the day following the person's arrival as the 1st day. For example, for a person who arrived at Hong Kong on 1 December 2022, 2 December 2022 is the 1st day and 6 December 2022 is the 5th day.

Note 3:—

Except for a person who is a registered participant of an inbound tour group for which a travel agent licensed under the Travel Industry Ordinance (Chapter 634) has registered with the Travel Industry Council of Hong Kong, and that person is to depart Hong Kong on or before the 3rd day following the person's arrival at Hong Kong ^[Note 2].

Note 4:—

If the tropical cyclone signal No. 3 or above is hoisted, or a red/black rainstorm warning signal or "extreme conditions after super typhoons" announced by the Government is/are in force at any time during the period for undergoing the Specified Test, the period for undergoing the Specified Test (for the polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test) will be extended for 1 day (*the Extended Testing Period due to Inclement Weather*).

Note 5:—

Under the Regulation, health officers may, without the need of an appointment, perform a function concerning a requirement under a Compulsory Testing Notice.

8 December 2022

Secretary for Health

Annex

PROCEDURE FOR THE SPECIFIED TESTS

Polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test ^[Note 1]

(1) For a test at Community Testing Centres/Community Testing Stations:—

- (a) attend one of the Community Testing Centres/Community Testing Stations ^[Note 2] set up by the Government during its opening hours on the specified testing date;
- (b) register to undergo the Specified Test, by presenting the person's identity document stated on the notification of medical surveillance (if applicable) and, as far as practicable, the notification of medical surveillance; and
- (c) undergo the Specified Test, including providing a sample taken through combined nasal and throat swabs or a throat swab, in accordance with the instructions given by the staff at the Community Testing Centre/Community Testing Station;

OR

(2) For a self-arranged test:—

- (a) arrange for the carrying out of the Specified Test at a laboratory which is included in the list of recognised laboratories for the Specified

Test published on the Government's COVID-19 thematic website at https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories_RTPCR.pdf and which can issue SMS (mobile phone text message) notifications in respect of test results; and

- (b) undergo on the specified testing date the Specified Test in accordance with the instructions given by the staff of the laboratory, including providing a sample taken through combined nasal and throat swabs or a throat swab;

OR

(3) For a test at ad hoc mobile specimen collection stations:—

- (a) attend one of the ad hoc mobile specimen collection stations ^[Note 3] set up by the Government on the specified testing date; and
- (b) undergo the Specified Test, including providing a sample taken through combined nasal and throat swabs or a throat swab, in accordance with the instructions given by the staff at the ad hoc mobile specimen collection station;

AND

- (4) keep the SMS (mobile phone text message) notification containing the result of the test, and provide the relevant SMS notification for checking by a prescribed officer when the prescribed officer requires the person to provide information about his or her undergoing the Specified Test.

Rapid antigen tests

(5) For a test using a rapid antigen test (*RAT*) kit:—

- (a) use RAT kits to undergo the Specified Tests as per the guidelines provided together with the RAT kits;
- (b) record the results in the health surveillance form; and
- (c) keep photos of the RAT test results, and provide the photos for checking by a prescribed officer when the prescribed officer requires the person to provide information about his or her undergoing the Specified Tests.

Note 1:—

If a person who falls within the specified category in Part (I) of the Notice is issued a medical certificate by a medical practitioner (*relevant medical certificate*), proving that he/she is unfit to undergo the Specified Test using a sample taken through combined nasal and throat swabs or a throat swab in compliance with the requirements and procedure set out above because of health reasons, then he/she may undergo the Specified Test using a deep throat saliva sample in compliance with the requirements and procedure set out below:—

(a) for a test with a specimen bottle obtained:—

- (i) obtain a specimen bottle from one of the designated post offices, general out-patient clinics of the Hospital Authority or vending machines set up at MTR stations ^[Note 4];
- (ii) collect deep throat saliva sample in the aforesaid specimen bottle as per the guidelines in the specimen collection pack;
- (iii) return, on the specified testing date, the specimen bottle with the sample to one of the designated collection points ^[Note 4]; and
- (iv) keep the SMS (mobile phone text message) notification containing the result of the test and the relevant medical certificate, and provide the relevant SMS notification and relevant medical certificate for checking by a prescribed officer when the prescribed officer requires the person to provide information about his or her undergoing the Specified Test;

OR

(b) for a test at general out-patient clinics of the Hospital Authority:—

- (i) undergo, on the specified testing date, the Specified Test at general out-patient clinics of the Hospital Authority as instructed by a medical professional of the Hospital Authority; and

- (ii) keep the SMS (mobile phone text message) notification containing the result of the test and the relevant medical certificate, and provide the relevant SMS notification and relevant medical certificate for checking by a prescribed officer when the prescribed officer requires the person to provide information about his or her undergoing the Specified Test;

OR

- (c) for a self-arranged test using deep throat saliva sample:—
 - (i) arrange for the carrying out of the Specified Test at a laboratory which is included in the list of recognised laboratories for the Specified Test published at the coronavirus disease 2019 thematic website on https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/pdf/List_of_recognised_laboratories_RTPCR.pdf and which can issue SMS (mobile phone text message) notifications in respect of test results;
 - (ii) undergo, on the specified testing date, the Specified Test in accordance with the instructions given by the staff of the laboratory; and
 - (iii) keep the SMS (mobile phone text message) notification containing the result of the test and the relevant medical certificate, and provide the relevant SMS notification and relevant medical certificate for checking by a prescribed officer when the prescribed officer requires the person to provide information about his or her undergoing the Specified Test.

Note 2:—

The location and opening hours of the Community Testing Centres/Community Testing Stations are set out in <https://www.communitytest.gov.hk/en/>.

Note 3:—

The location, opening hours and target groups (if applicable) of the ad hoc mobile specimen collection stations are set out in <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html>.

Note 4:—

The location and opening hours of post offices, general out-patient clinics and MTR stations distributing specimen bottles as well as the specimen collection location and time are set out in <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html>.