

G.N. (E.) 204 of 2022

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 the following category of persons:—

any person who, when the restriction-testing declaration (*declaration*) involving Mei Chi House, Mei Tin Estate, Sha Tin, New Territories, Hong Kong (excluding Mei Tin Estate Management Office on G/F) made on 6 February 2022 was effective, was present in the restricted area identified by the declaration in any capacity (including but not limited to residents, visitors and workers);

Requirements and Procedure for the Test

(II) require every person falling within the specified categories to undergo a polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test for the coronavirus disease 2019 (*the Specified Test*) in compliance with the requirements and procedure set out below ^[Note 2]:—

(a) for a test at mobile specimen collection stations/temporary specimen collection stations:—

- (i) attend, on 7 or 8 February 2022, one of the mobile specimen collection stations/temporary specimen collection stations ^[Note 2] set up by the Government during the time specified by prescribed officer(s) every day;
- (ii) undergo the Specified Test, including providing a sample taken through combined nasal and throat swabs, in accordance with the instructions given by the staff at the stations; and
- (iii) 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;

OR

(b) for a test at Community Testing Centres:—

- (i) attend one of the Community Testing Centres ^[Note 3] set up by the Government in accordance with the time specified under Part (II)(a)(i);
- (ii) undergo the Specified Test, including providing a sample taken through combined nasal and throat swabs, in accordance with the instructions given by the staff at the centre; and
- (iii) 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;

OR

(c) for a test using a specimen bottle distributed to the buildings specified in Part (I) above by the Centre for Health Protection (*CHP*)/public officer(s) (if applicable):—

- (i) obtain a specimen bottle from the CHP/public officer(s);
- (ii) collect relevant sample in the aforesaid specimen bottle as per the guidelines in the specimen collection pack;

- (iii) return the specimen bottle with the sample to one of the designated collection points ^[Note 4], in accordance with the time specified under Part (II)(a)(i), to the collection points specified in the information provided in the specimen collection pack; and
- (iv) 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;

OR

(d) for a self-arranged test:—

- (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, in accordance with the time specified under Part (II)(a)(i), 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; and
- (iii) 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;

(III) require every person who falls within the above category to take appropriate personal disease prevention measures as far as reasonably practicable, including wearing a mask and maintaining hand hygiene; and unless for the purpose of undergoing the Specified Test, stay at his/her place of residence and avoid going out until the test result is ascertained as far as possible;

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

(IV) specify, in respect of the required test specified in Part (II), the 30-day period from 8 February to 9 March 2022 as the period during which a Compulsory Testing Order may be issued under the Regulation upon non-compliance with this Notice;

Appointment of Prescribed Officers

(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 5].

Note 1:—

If a person who falls within the category specified in Part (I) above is issued a medical certificate by a registered 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 in compliance with the requirements and procedure set out in Part (II) 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 120 post offices, 46 general out-patient clinics of the Hospital Authority or vending machines set up at 20 MTR stations ^[Note 4];
- (ii) collect relevant sample in the aforesaid specimen bottle as per the guidelines in the specimen collection pack;
- (iii) return, in accordance with the time specified under Part (II)(a)(i), 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, in accordance with the time specified under Part (II)(a)(i), 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, in accordance with the time specified under Part (II)(a)(i), 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, opening hours and target groups (if applicable) of the mobile specimen collection stations are set out in <https://www.coronavirus.gov.hk/eng/early-testing.html>.

Note 3:—

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

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>.

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.

7 February 2022

Secretary for Food and Health