

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 is to enter any one of the *specified slaughterhouses* ^[Note 1];

Requirements and Procedure for the Test

(II) require every person who falls within the above category specified in Part (I) to undergo a test using a Rapid Antigen Test kit (*RAT*) once every day and to undergo a polymerase chain reaction-based nucleic acid test for the COVID-19 (*the Specified Test*) once every two days in compliance with the requirements and procedure set out below ^[Note 2]:—

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

- (i) attend one of the mobile specimen collection stations ^[Note 3] set up by the Government and undergo the Specified Test, including providing a sample taken through combined nasal and throat swabs which must not be taken by the person himself/herself, in accordance with the instructions given by the staff at the stations;
- (ii) keep the SMS notification (mobile phone text message) containing the result of the test ^[Note 4]; and
- (iii) provide (1) the SMS notification containing the result of the test which must be issued within the past two days counting from the day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses ^[Note 4]; and (2) the proof of a negative test result of the RAT conducted within the past 24 hours counting from the time on a given day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses, for checking when a prescribed officer or the licence holder of the slaughterhouse requires the relevant 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 5] set up by the Government during its opening hours and undergo the Specified Test, including providing a sample taken through combined nasal and throat swabs which must not be taken by the person himself/herself, in accordance with the instructions given by the staff at the centre;
- (ii) keep the SMS notification (mobile phone text message) containing the result of the test ^[Note 4]; and
- (iii) provide (1) the SMS notification containing the result of the test which must be issued within the past two days counting from the day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses ^[Note 4]; and (2) the proof of a negative test result of the RAT conducted within the past 24 hours counting from the time on a given day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses, for checking when a prescribed officer or the licence holder of the slaughterhouse requires the relevant person to provide information about his or her undergoing the Specified Test;

OR

(c) for a self-arranged test:—

- (i) arrange for the carrying out of the Specified Test at a laboratory which is included in a 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 notifications in respect of test results;
- (ii) undergo 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 which must not be taken by the person himself/herself;
- (iii) keep the SMS notification (mobile phone text message) containing the result of the test ^[Note 4]; and
- (iv) provide (1) the SMS notification containing the result of the test which must be issued within the past two days counting from the day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses ^[Note 4]; and (2) the proof of a negative result of the RAT conducted within the past 24 hours counting from the time on a given day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses, for checking when a prescribed officer or the licence holder of the slaughterhouse requires the relevant person to provide information about his or her undergoing the Specified Test;

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

(III) specify in relation to the category of persons above the 30-day period from the day on which the person enters any one of the specified slaughterhouses as the period during which a Compulsory Testing Order may be issued under the Regulation upon non-compliance with this Notice; and

Appointment of Prescribed Officers

(IV) 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 6].

This Notice will take effect from 28 February 2022.

Note 1:—

The specified slaughterhouses are:—

- (1) Sheung Shui Slaughterhouse located at 15 Chuk Wan Street, Sheung Shui, New Territories, Hong Kong; and
- (2) Tsuen Wan Slaughterhouse located at Lot 343, Wing Shun Street, Tsuen Wan, New Territories, Hong Kong.

The persons falling within the category of persons specified in Part (I) above do not include a person approved by the Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (**DFEH**) or a representative authorised by the DFEH.

Note 2:—

If a person who falls within the category of persons specified in Part (I) above is issued a medical certificate by a registered medical practitioner (*medical certificate for being unfit for swabs*), 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 7];

- (ii) collect deep throat saliva sample in the specimen bottle as per the guidelines provided together with the specimen bottle;
- (iii) return the specimen bottle with the sample to one of the designated collection points ^[Note 7];
- (iv) keep the SMS notification (mobile phone text message) containing the result of the test ^[Note 4] and the medical certificate for being unfit for swabs ; and
- (v) provide (1) the medical certificate for being unfit for swabs; (2) the SMS notification containing the result of the test which must be issued within the past two days counting from the day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses ^[Note 4]; and (3) the proof of a negative test result of the RAT conducted within the past 24 hours counting from the time on a given day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses, for checking when a prescribed officer or the licence holder of the slaughterhouse requires the relevant 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 the Specified Test at general out-patient clinics of the Hospital Authority as instructed by a medical professional of the Hospital Authority;
 - (ii) keep the SMS notification (mobile phone text message) containing the result of the test ^[Note 4] and the medical certificate for being unfit for swabs; and
 - (iii) provide (1) the medical certificate for being unfit for swabs; (2) the SMS notification containing the result of the test which must be issued within the past two days counting from the day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses ^[Note 4]; and (3) the proof of a negative test result of the RAT conducted within the past 24 hours counting from the time on a given day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses, for checking when a prescribed officer or the licence holder of the slaughterhouse requires the relevant 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 notifications in respect of test results;
 - (ii) undergo the Specified Test in accordance with the instructions given by the staff of the laboratory;
 - (iii) keep the SMS notification (mobile phone text message) containing the result of the test ^[Note 4] and the medical certificate for being unfit for swabs; and
 - (iv) provide (1) the medical certificate for being unfit for swabs; (2) the SMS notification containing the result of the test which must be issued within the past two days counting from the day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses ^[Note 4]; and (3) the proof of a negative test result of the RAT conducted within the past 24 hours counting from the time on a given day when the relevant person enters any one of the slaughterhouses, for checking when a prescribed officer or the licence holder of the slaughterhouse requires the relevant person to provide information about his or her undergoing the Specified Test.

Note 3:—

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 4:—

During the period from 28 February to 1 March 2022, if a person who falls within the category of persons specified in Part (I) above has not yet received the SMS notification containing the

result of the test before entering any one of the specified slaughterhouses, then he/she may instead produce the SMS notification on registration for undergoing the test (or for a person issued with a medical certificate for being unfit for swabs, a proof of having returned the specimen bottle) and would not be deemed to have violated the relevant requirement. Starting from 2 March 2022, a person who falls within the category of persons specified in Part (I) above must produce the SMS notification containing the result of the test before entering any one of the specified slaughterhouses.

Note 5:—

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

Note 6:—

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

Note 7:—

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>.

27 February 2022

Secretary for Food and Health