

## Croatian Institute of Public Health

Zagreb, 26 February 2020 at 15:00

### Recommendations for the University regarding the students coming from foreign countries

#### Specific safety measures against novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

Methods of screening passengers entering the Republic of Croatia are defined with an aim to ensure the protection of public health, travellers including, with a minimal disruption of international traffic.

Safety measures against coronavirus are being taken for the people who have been staying in China, Hong Kong, Japan, Iran, Singapore, South Korea over the past 14 days and for those who had travelled from the Italian regions Lombardy, Veneto, Emilia Romagna and Piedmont to Croatia as of 23 February. Those people will be placed under two-week monitoring programme that includes:

- active health surveillance (reporting health status to territorial epidemiologist according to the current address)
- self-isolation in their home based on the Decision of border sanitary inspector on close health monitoring of respiratory disease symptoms.

Moreover, people coming from the afore-mentioned regions in Italy over the period of 14 days before 24 February and have developed the respiratory symptoms are by no means to attend any public gatherings, such as classes and other programmes. They should contact their selected physician immediately.

- Coronavirus affected areas: China, Hong Kong, Italian regions Lombardy, Veneto, Emilia Romagna and Piedmont, Japan, Iran, Singapore, South Korea.

1. Active health monitoring of **healthy students** who are travelling in from affected areas and who do not claim to have had any close contact with the affected persons: **IS REQUIRED TO BE IN SELF-ISOLATION** in their home or Student residence (any type of student accommodation), which means **these students can live with other people** (for instance, they can share accommodation/room with other students).

2. Active health surveillance over **healthy students** (with no symptoms of the disease) who come from the affected areas, and **those who were in close contact with someone who is affected: IS REQUIRED TO BE IN SELF-ISOLATION** in their home or Student residence (any type of student accommodation), but they need to live alone. Therefore, when possible, it is necessary to **arrange that this student lives alone in a room** which means that s/he shouldn't be sharing a room with another student. If this is not possible to arrange, it is essential to be under ORGANIZED QUARANTINE in a health institution (currently available only at the Clinic for Infectious Diseases "Dr. Fran Mihaljević " in Zagreb).

**3. Students coming from affected areas, and have some respiratory symptoms** (sudden onset of at least one of the following symptoms: fever, cough, sore throat and shortness of breath) need to be qualified as affected persons until the results of microbial identification shows differently, meaning, **hospitalization is essential** at the Clinic for Infectious Diseases of the University Hospital of Split.

However, given the current epidemiologic circumstances, situation can rapidly change and this implies change in safety measures as well. Therefore, we advise you to follow the web pages of Croatian Institute of Public Health ([www.hzjz.hr](http://www.hzjz.hr)) and the Ministry of Health where updated information related to coronavirus are daily published, including safety measures:

<https://zdravstvo.gov.hr/koronavirus-i-mjere-prevencije/4952>

<https://www.hzjz.hr/medunarodna-istrazivanja/koronavirus-najnoviji-podatci/>

<https://www.hzjz.hr/sluzba-epidemiologija-zarazne-bolesti/pitanja-i-odgovori-o-novom-koronavirusu-2019-ncov/>

#### **General safety measures:**

In addition, in organized accommodation of students such as campuses, student residences or facilities where classes are being held, hygiene facilities and areas where meals are served it is essential to ensure:

- washing hands with liquid soap and water; use of paper towels or hand dryers and alcohol-based disinfectant,
- excused class absence of teaching staff or students with respiratory infection, fever or cough.

Students and other citizens need to be constantly reminded of taking general safety measures:

- regularly wash hands with soap and water or use alcohol-based disinfectant
- when coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue and later toss it into the garbage and wash your hands
- avoid close contact with people with respiratory disease symptoms; fever or cough.