

Ordinance on Compulsory Testing of Persons Entering from Risk Areas

Of 6 August 2020

(unofficial translation)¹

On the basis of section 36 (7) sentences 1, 3 and 5 of the Protection against Infection Act (*Infektionsschutzgesetz – IfSG*) as amended by article 6 no. 3 (e) of the Act of 11 December 2018 (Federal Law Gazette (BGBl.) I p. 2394), the Federal Ministry of Health orders as follows:

Section 1

Compulsory testing

(1) Persons entering the Federal Republic of Germany by land, sea or air who at any time during the 14 days before their entry have stayed in an area where there is a heightened risk of infection with SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus must, at the request of the competent health office (*Gesundheitsamt*) or other authority designated by the Land, present a medical certificate in accordance with subsection (2) stating that there is no indication of the presence of an infection with SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus. The request under sentence 1 may be made up to 14 days after entry. Areas within the meaning of sentence 1 are areas listed at the time of entry by the Robert Koch Institute on its website at <https://www.rki.de/covid-19-risikogebiete>.

(2) The medical certificate must be in German or English and be based on a molecular biological test for the presence of an infection with SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus performed in a Member State of the European Union or in another state listed by the Robert Koch Institute on its website at <https://www.rki.de/covid-19-tests>. If performed before entry into the Federal Republic of Germany, the molecular biological test must have been performed no more than 48 hours before entry into the Federal Republic of Germany.

(3) The medical examination for the presence of an infection with SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, to which persons are required to consent under section 36 (7) sentence 2 of the Protection against Infection Act because of failure to comply with their obligation under subsection (1) sentence 1, comprises a molecular biological test for the presence of an infection with SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus, including a swab test to obtain sample material.

(4) The obligation under subsection (1) does not apply to persons who have merely passed through a risk area without a stopover there or who, by virtue of an exception provided for under Land law, are not required to quarantine at home at their place of residence or their first other place of stay after entering from a risk area.

(5) Any obligation under Land law to quarantine after entering from a risk area remains unaffected. Additional stipulations and individual measures of the Länder under the Protection against Infection Act remain unaffected.

Section 2

Entry into force

This Ordinance enters into force on the day following its promulgation.

¹ Please note that translations of any materials into languages other than German are intended solely as a convenience to the non-German-reading public. In the case of any discrepancies, only the German original version is absolutely authoritative and legally binding.