

## **Compulsory repeat of the COVID-19 laboratory test for passengers arriving from Category C countries**

In the context of the strategy implemented by the Government for combating and managing the virus pandemic concerning the containment of COVID-19 cases imported through the entrance points, based on the epidemiological picture of various countries as assessed by the Epidemiological Monitoring and Control of Infectious Diseases Unit as regards the COVID-19 disease, and in accordance with the [Minister of Health Decree No. 37](#), dated 12 August 2020, the following are stipulated:

Persons arriving from Countries included in Category C shall be **obliged to undergo a molecular examination for the COVID-19 disease, 48 hours before the end of their self-isolation, at their own expense.** The result of the laboratory examination must then be **sent to the email address [monada@mphs.moh.gov.cy](mailto:monada@mphs.moh.gov.cy)** . Needless to say that the self-isolation of persons will be terminated as long as the outcome of the repetitive molecular examination comes back negative.

It is recalled that in accordance with the [Infectious Diseases Decree \(No.30, paragraph 2.8 \(a\)\) of 2020](#), the entry into the Republic from Category C countries is allowed **only for certain categories of persons** who may choose to undergo a diagnostic test for the COVID-19 disease upon their arrival in Cyprus or bring with them a RT-PCR COVID-19 certificate with a negative result no earlier than 72 hours prior to departure. If their stay in the Republic exceeds 4 days, such persons shall be obliged to remain in a state of isolation for 14 days.

It should be noted that the [maximum fee](#) for carrying out a laboratory test **has been determined at €85**. It is made clear that the only acceptable and approved method of investigating the COVID-19 disease is through the diagnostic methodology, which traces the genetic material of the virus (RT-PCR) and can be performed at [Private Clinical Laboratories](#), which have completed the verification process of their methodology.

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Ministry of Health

12 August 2020