



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

**MEDICAL SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES
1449 NICOSIA**

Guidelines for suspected COVID-19 cases

In this category are persons who are obliged to be restricted includes those who:

- **Returned from a category C country in the last 14 days, regardless of symptoms or testing results.**
- **Were evaluated by the Contact Tracing Team as close contacts of a confirmed case.**

Guidelines for home isolation:

- Ideally, each suspected case should be living on their own house. If this is not possible, the suspected case must isolate in a room, which the rest of the family members/housemates, under any circumstances, would not be using.
- The room in which the suspected case will use to isolate, must be well ventilated.
- The suspected cases are not allowed to leave their house. *
- No visitors are allowed.
- It is suggested that they use separate cutlery and any other kitchenware from other housemates. If this is not possible to achieve, then disinfection with any common disinfectant/soap after each use and then dry well is advised.
- It is suggested that a separate toilet and bathroom are used from other housemates. In the cases where this cannot be applied, then the toilet and bathroom should be disinfected each time according to the instructions of the health services (<https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/en/pdf/enpa.pdf>).
- If there is a scheduled trip before the official release date, it is FORBIDDEN for this trip to take place. An exception can be made in the case where the permanent address of the suspected case is not in Cyprus, these has to be green lighted by the Epidemiological Surveillance Unit of Ministry of Health.
- Exception to leave the home isolation is ONLY allowed in cases of medical emergencies and after telephone approval by the general practitioner (GP) of the suspect case or 1420. In that case, transportation should be unaccompanied and only by personal vehicle (not by bus or taxi) or ambulance.
- Until the end of the isolation period, waste should be placed in a double well-sealed plastic/waterproof waste bag and stored for 72 hours in a separate area from the designated collection. At the end of 72 hours they can be placed in their usual collection area.



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- If all the above can not be applicable for any reason, there is an option of an isolation room provided with **additional costs** at a designated quarantine hotel. (These costs are completely covered by the Ministry of Tourism, if the occurred close contact was a passenger on the flight where the confirmed case was found and was contacted for instructions by the Ministry of Health).
- If the suspect case is a minor, only one adult is justified to stay with the child in quarantine and can get a certificate of absence from work by the Ministry of Health, as described below. For the adult who choose it, the same instructions for self-restraint at home and isolation from the other roommates apply as for the minor.

Next Update/Release:

- The isolation period is 14 days**.
- The isolation period begins from the last day the person came in contact with the confirmed case and not from the day they were informed of the situation***. The day of last contact is determined as day 0 and the 14 days start counting from the following day.
- Instructions will be given over the phone for the place of the test and the transportation within a few days from the first contact. From the Contact Tracing Procedure, **one** free test is covered.
- Individuals in self-isolation due to a recent trip from a Category C country are responsible for a repeat test, on the 12th day of their arrival, at their own expense (https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/en/press/13082020_1.pdf).
- The person will be notified for the result within 72hours through sms.
- Even if the test result is negative, the quarantine period still applies in both cases. The isolation is automatically lifted after 14 days, as long as the result of the latest sampling is negative.
- The contacts of a confirm case can return to their activities even without a test if they don't develop any symptoms within 14 days after their last contact with a confirm case.

General Practitioner (GP):

- In case of symptom development, you should notify your GP. In that case, the GP can schedule another test, if necessary.
- Daily temperature monitoring is suggested from the individual.
- In case where a suspected case is not registered to a GP, immediate registration is recommended. If this is not possible, the person can call 1420 if needed.



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Absence from work from the Ministry of Health:

It is possible to obtain a Certificate of Absence from work from the Ministry of Health, which will be presented to the employer. The Certificate is given only for close contacts of a confirm case and people traveling to category C countries for professional reasons. The relevant file is attached, but can also be completed electronically in the following way:

1. On the page <https://www.pio.gov.cy/coronavirus/> , in the *Information / Instructions* tab there is the file *Request for issuance of a certificate of absence from work for reasons of Public Health*.
2. Fill the document and send it after the quarantine period is completed by fax (22771496) or via email (smichael@papd.mof.gov.cy), as stated in the form. The certificate will be sent back in the same way.

For general information, contact 1412 (08:00-20:00).

For any further instructions and clarifications, contact the Contact Tracing Team (22514241-5).

**Home quarantine may be monitored by either on-site or telephone checks. Persons under house isolation are required to comply with the regulation. In case of non-compliance, they may be exposed to legal actions.*

***Return to work before 14 days may be approved for health professionals and other professionals in public or private hospitals after consultation by the local infection control committees or the safety manager of the hospital where they work. However, they are not exempt from social isolation in terms of their social and family contacts.*

****In case the close contacts are not separated from the positive case, then they are released 14 days after their last contact with the case from the day that the positive case is released.*

Also, if the suspected case is a person that need special care then one care-giver may stay together with the person that need special care in quarantine and apply for a certificate of absence from work.

Medical Services and Public Health Services
Ministry of Health
20/11/2020



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**Subject: Application for a Certificate of Absence from work
for Public Health purposes**

Individuals who apply for a Certificate of Absence from work for Public Health reasons, must complete the following personal information.

Application Date:.....

Full Name:.....

Passport* or Identification* Number:.....

*a copy should be attached

Permanent Residence Address:.....

.....

Contact Telephone number:.....

E-mail Address:.....

Date of arrival/last contact with confirmed case:

.....

Country of Departure/Name of confirmed case:

.....

Signature:

***Travel documents** should be attached (boarding pass or flight ticket), which confirm the date of arrival in Cyprus.

*The document should be sent either by fax to 22771496 or by e-mail at:
smichael@papd.mof.gov.cy after the period of quarantine is completed*