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Munich, March 11 2021

## **Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) Information for the Parents**

### **What to do with Children with (mild) Symptoms of a Disease – Necessity of a Corona Test**

As has so far been the case, the opening of the children's day care centers and children's day care institutions requires the compliance with strict hygiene requirements in order to ensure a safe operation even during the pandemic. This approach protects employees as well as the children attending those institutions. In recent weeks, the British viral mutation B. 1.1.7 has also increasingly spread in Germany and in Bavaria. This viral mutation is considered more contagious. At the same time, the number of infections that children usually come down with at this time of the year have fallen substantially.

Therefore it is, according to the judgment of the medical staff counseling the State Government in this regard, required to adjust the regulation regarding corona tests in context with diseases and to, from now on, demand a **negative test result for SARS-CoV-2** (PCR or PoC antigen test) for ill or recovered children and employees. The Bavarian Regional Association of the Professional Association of Pediatricians and the Bavarian Regional Association of General Practitioners who were involved in the consultations about the necessity of the tests assured us that adequate test capacities were available in the practices.

Applicable as of March 15 2021 is therefore that children with symptoms of an acute, communicable disease need a negative test result before they are allowed to attend the day care centers/ children's day care institution again. This regulation was adopted upon coordination with the Bavarian State Ministry of Health and Care as well as the Bavarian State Office for Health and Food Safety.

- Children and employees suffering from a cold or cough based on allergic causes, congested nasal breathing (without fever), occasional coughs, sore throat or throat-clearing are still allowed to attend the children's day care institution without a test. We kindly ask you to present a corresponding doctor's certificate upon request of the institutions' managements.

- In case of mild, recent and non-progressive cold and/or respiratory symptoms (such as cold and cough, but without fever), it is only allowed to attend the children's day care institution if a **negative test result for SARS-CoV-2** (PCR or PoC-antigen test) is presented.
- Ill children in a **reduced general state of health** suffering from fever, cough, shortness of breath, breathlessness, loss of sense of taste or smell, sore throat or earache, cold, limb pain, severe abdominal pain, vomiting or diarrhea are not allowed to attend the children's day care institutions. A child is only allowed to attend the day care institution again as soon as the child shows a good general state of health (except for mild cold and/or respiratory symptoms). Additionally required is the presentation of a **negative test result for SARS-CoV-2** (PCR or PoC-antigen test).
- The required test may also be performed during the phase of the disease. It is not required to wait until the symptoms of the disease have resolved.

Also not required is a repeated testing after the convalescence because it is possible to rule out a SARS-CoV-2 infection with reasonable certainty already with the test at the beginning of the disease. However, not sufficient in order to prove a negative result is the presentation of a **rapid test performed by the ill person (lay test)**.

If the child's general state of health should deteriorate while attending the institution, we kindly ask you to pick up your child from the children's day care institution as quickly as possible. You may bring your child back to the children's day care institution as soon as the symptoms have resolved, in particular if the child is free from fever, and a negative test result for SARS-CoV-2 (PCR or PoC-antigen test) is presented.

Again, we would like to point out to you that the Bundestag and the Bundesrat have resolved in January 2021 already to double the children's sick days per parent and child from 10 to 20 days (for single parents to 40 days). Applications for the childcare sickness benefit in those cases have to be submitted by the parents to the responsible statutory health insurance. For frequently asked questions and answers to the children's sick days and the childcare sickness benefit, please see the homepage of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (<https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/meta/en>).

Furthermore, we would like to inform you about the possibility of the claim for compensation according to § 56 para. 1a IfSG (Infection Protection Act). For further information, please see [here](#).

We are aware that the last months were particularly challenging and burdening for you as parents. However, the regulations applicable from March 15 2021 on are urgently required in order to protect the employees in the children's day care institutions, your children and you as the families. The fight against the pandemic can only succeed when we are all working together. This is why we would like to express our heartfelt thanks for your cooperation at this point already.

With kind regards

Your Department V3 – Children's Daycare