

## BIOLOGICAL AGENT

### Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2

#### RISKS FOR PEOPLE



Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 is assigned to risk group 3. COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019) is caused by an infection with coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 being passed on from person to person.

**Method of transmission:**

- droplet infection - the virus is transmitted through the air by droplets which land on the mucous membranes (mouth, nose, eyes), or
- smear infection - transmission via contaminated hands to the mucous membranes (mouth, nose, eyes)

**Incubation period:**

It can take up to two weeks after infection for symptoms to appear.

**Health effects:**

Infections are usually mild and without symptoms. But acute symptoms of the disease can also occur, such as respiratory problems with a fever, cough, difficulty breathing or respiratory distress. In severe cases, an infection can also lead to pneumonia, severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), kidney failure or even death.

This particularly affects people with previous underlying illnesses or those with a weak immune system.

#### PROTECTIVE MEASURES AND RULES ON WHAT TO DO



**In order to reduce the risk of infection, the ministry decrees and the following hygiene measures must be adhered to:**

- avoid shaking hands and physical contact
- wash your hands regularly, frequently and carefully (for at least 20 seconds, with soap, up to your wrists)
- dry your hands thoroughly with a paper towel after washing them
- use a disinfectant for your hands if there is nowhere to wash them
- keep your hands away from your face
- cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow
- keep at least 1.5 metres away from other people
- regularly air closed rooms (intense ventilation)

Consistently implementing these protective measures is particularly important for people with existing respiratory diseases and for people with a weak immune system.

**Pregnant women:**

If a case of illness (COVID-19 case confirmed by lab tests) or a medically-justified suspicion occurs (as defined by the RKI) in the institute or facility, then an employment ban exists.

#### WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF RISK - FIRST AID



**People with symptoms:**

- must inform their superior immediately
- call their doctor or 116 117
- immediately inform their HR contact person if they are sick or under quarantine orders.