

Regulations relating to amendments to the Regulations of 13 March 2020 No. 287 on quarantine etc. after travelling outside the Nordic region

Legal basis: Adopted by the Ministry of Health and Care Services as Regulations of 15 March 2020 under the Act of 5 August 1994 No. 55 relating to control of communicable diseases, section 7-12; see section 1-2, third paragraph; see Regulations of 13 March 2020 No. 287, section 5.

I

In the Regulations of 13 March 2020 No. 287 on quarantine etc. after travelling outside the Nordic region, the following amendments are made:

The title of the Regulations shall read:

Regulations of 13 March 2020 No. 287 relating to quarantine etc. upon arrival in Norway

Section 1 shall read:

Section 1 Duty of quarantine

Persons arriving in Norway shall undergo quarantine for 14 days after arrival in Norway.

A person in quarantine is to stay in his or her own home or other suitable place of accommodation. The person may only leave the home or place of accommodation if close contact with other persons is avoided. *“Close contact” in this context refers to contact in closer proximity than two metres from other persons for more than 15 minutes, or direct physical contact. The third sentence does not apply to health personnel using proper protective equipment.*

Section 2 shall read:

Section 2 Exemption from duty of quarantine

Persons who travel in connection with work between home and their place of work, and in so doing cross the borders between Norway, Sweden and Finland, are exempt from section 1 when travelling to and from work.

Persons who are essential to maintain the proper operation of critical public functions and attend to fundamental needs of the population, including persons who perform goods and passenger transport functions, are exempted from section 1. Use of this exemption must be clarified with the entity's management.

Persons included under the exemption mentioned in the *first and second paragraphs* shall, to the degree possible, avoid close contact with other persons.

Section 3 shall read:

Section 3 Isolation

Persons in quarantine who develop *fever or respiratory symptoms such as coughing or shortness of breath* shall remain in isolation.

Persons who have symptoms as mentioned in the first paragraph upon arrival in Norway shall immediately be isolated in a place designated by the municipal medical officer. Persons with symptoms may not use public transport to reach the place designated for isolation.

“Isolation” in this context refers to a person staying in his or her own home or *at another* suitable place of accommodation. *The person shall be isolated from other persons and, to the degree possible, shall not have close contact with persons in the same household.*

Persons covered by the first and second paragraphs shall remain in isolation from the time symptoms first appear until 7 days after all symptoms are gone.

Section 4, new fourth and fifth paragraphs shall read:

Persons who are in Svalbard without being resident there, and who are subject to the duty of quarantine pursuant to section 1, first paragraph, may leave Svalbard without restriction by the provisions of section 1, second paragraph. Nor does the duty of quarantine restrict onwards departure from Norway. Close contact with other persons shall be avoided to the degree possible.

Departure from quarantine in Svalbard is in line with the decision of the Governor of Svalbard, after consultation with the University Hospital North Norway HF–Longyearbyen hospital. The Governor of Svalbard may, by administrative decision, order that persons mentioned in the fourth paragraph have a duty to leave Svalbard. Chapters IV to VII of the Public Administration Act are not applicable.

Section 6 shall read:

Section 6 *Penalty*

Intentional or grossly negligent violation of the provisions of these Regulations is punishable by a fine or imprisonment for up to 6 months; see section 8-1 of the Act relating to control of communicable diseases.

The current section 6 becomes the new section 7. In the new section 7, second paragraph, the new second sentence shall read:

For persons arriving in Norway from Sweden or Finland, implementation of these Regulations will begin on 17 March 2020.

II

The Regulations enter into force on 17 March 2020. However, the amendment in section 4 enters into force immediately.