



Covid-19 Response in Prisons

Description

Update from 7 April 2020

The Smrekonica Correctional Center is strictly implementing all the recommendations received so far from the DShB and SHKK, regarding the protection measures related to the prevention of COVID-19 pandemic at the Smrekonica Correctional Center. which are harmonized such as: personal and collective hygiene, wearing masks and gloves all the time in the wards, the presence and use of disinfectants and hygiene products, timely and accurate information for prisoners on all actions, hygiene and outdoor spaces.and good waste management, etc., previously sent.

1. No one from the correctional and health staff is allowed to work who does not have or cannot have the equipment for protective measures.
2. All prisoners with protective masks and hygienic materials and hand soap are provided at all times. Each prisoner who for any reason is released from prison, as well as those who come to prison for the first time, when returned to be placed in solitary confinement for a period of at least 14 days. The date of discharge is determined by the doctor after the clinical examination.
3. Prisoners and staff have been informed of preventive measures by oral and written medical staff, through letters and posters.
4. Each member of the correctional or health staff who in any form has had a meeting in unauthorized groups and contacts with other persons outside the family to



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tell before entering the job in order to assess the doctor whether I can enter work or not in favor of preventing the introduction of infection inside the prison.

5. On 06.04.2020, the entire space of the Smrekonica Correctional Center was disinfected.

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Confronting the current situation about COVID-19 (the corona virus), in Kosovo specifically in the Kosovo Correctional Service we are taking concrete measures to prevent this virus.

1. Prohibition of visits to prisoners/detainees for a period of 2 or 3 weeks.
(decision should then be reviewed, to make a decision to extend or terminate)
2. Allow inmates to call as per need.
3. Installing Skype Virtual Communication, so that Prisoner/detainee can communicate with families (avoiding protests).
4. Disinfection of all residential and yards in prisons.
5. Equipping staff in the entrance/reception with sterile masks and gloves (where prisoners are accepted)
6. Prohibition of weekends for prisoners.
7. Prohibition of transferring prisoners to other prisons inside the country.
8. Reduction of transport to Courts and Prosecutors only in urgent cases.
9. Suspension of sentencing people who are already chronically ill. The decision shall be taken by the Court based on our request.
10. Continual doctors` control for staff control by Doctors located in Correctional / Detention Centers
11. Continual check-ups of inmates/detainees in case of any virus symptoms
12. Supplying prisons with hygienic material such as Shampoos, soaps and hand sanitizers.] this should be for prisoners` purpose
13. Supply of hot water supply for 24 hours, inside prisons.



In case we have any infected persons within Correctional / Detention Centers
In this situation, the affected persons should be isolated at specific locations and all precautionary measures are to be taken.

As an additional measure to be taken:

1. Supply of sterile masks and gloves to all KCS staff and prisoners/detainees
2. Request to the Court for the temporary suspension of convictions for prisoners that use the Weekend Prisoners and Non-Recidivists (We Have 13-17% Recidivist in Prisons).
3. Forced leave for staff who are at older age and have any symptoms of any flu or any illness.
4. Extend the working hours for Correctional Officers based on operational needs.
5. Increase security measures inside prisons and at checkpoints.

Point of Contact

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Additional Covid-19 resources are available at: <http://bit.ly/2U0oKLG>

If you would like to send us information about Covid-19, please fill in this form: <http://bit.ly/2WnqiRH>