

# Information on the recognition of molecular biological tests for SARS-CoV-2 for persons arriving in Germany from risk areas

Current at: 6 November 2020

Persons entering the Federal Republic of Germany, who have spent time in a risk area at any specific period within 14 days (from 8 November 2020 within 10 days) prior to entry, are principally subject to quarantine under the specific quarantine ordinances issued by the competent federal state (Land). The current list of risk areas can be found on the following website: [www.rki.de/covid-19-risikogebiete](http://www.rki.de/covid-19-risikogebiete).

**Please bear in mind that the Federal Government examines, on an ongoing basis, the extent to which areas are to be classified as risk areas. As a result, this list can be modified at short notice and, above all, may be extended.**

In accordance with the respective quarantine regulations of the responsible federal states, persons entering the country from risk areas may be exempted from the obligation to quarantine, given that they have a coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 negative test result, on paper or in an electronic document in German, English or French language and they will provide this document without delay within 14 days after entry to the responsible authority on request. **Please note, that from 8 November 2020 this regulation will only apply in certain exceptional cases.**

The Federal Government and the Federal States have decided to adapt the currently valid quarantine regulations for entries from foreign risk areas as of November 8, 2020. The obligation to enter or return to a risk area within the last ten days before entry will then apply to all foreigners who have been in a risk area for the last ten days before entry to the country and who are obliged to enter a ten-day quarantine immediately after entry. In future, the possibility of prematurely ending the quarantine obligation by a negative test result will only exist after five days. However, in order to avoid disrupting the community, family life and business, certain groups of people are exempt from the obligation to remain in quarantine if a negative test result is presented. To find out whether one of these exemptions applies to you, please contact the federal state that concerns you.

**Molecular based tests (PCR tests) for the direct detection of the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 are currently accepted from all countries of the European Union as well as from the countries listed below.**

**Antigen tests for the direct detection of coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 are accepted in principle from all countries, as long as they meet the minimum criteria recommended by the WHO for SARS-CoV-2-Ag rapid tests.** This includes tests that meet  $\geq 80\%$  sensitivity and  $\geq 97\%$  specificity, compared to PCR test ([WHO: Antigen-detection in the diagnosis of SARS-CoV-2 infection using rapid immunoassays. Interim guidance, 11 September 2020](#)).

The respective authority may not accept a coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 negative test result if there is justified doubt whether the test meets the minimum performance requirements. For verification of

minimum performance requirements by the respective health authorities, details on the antigen test manufacturer must be given on the test certificate.

- Albania
- Algeria
- Andorra
- Angola
- Argentina
- Australia
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Benin
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Brazil
- Brunei
- Burkina Faso
- Cambodia
- Canada
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- China HK
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Cuba
- Dominican Republic
- DR Congo
- Ecuador
- Egypt
- El Salvador
- Eswatini
- Ethiopia
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Great Britain
- Guinea
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Israel

- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Lebanon
- Liechtenstein
- Madagascar
- Malaysia
- Maldives
- Mali
- Mauritius
- Mexico
- Monaco
- Montenegro
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar
- Namibia
- New Zealand
- Niger
- Nigeria
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palestine
- Panama
- Peru
- Philippines
- Qatar
- Russia
- Republic of Moldova
- Rwanda
- Saint Lucia
- Saudi Arabia
- Senegal
- Serbia
- Seychelles
- Singapore
- South Africa

- South Korea
- South Sudan
- Sri Lanka
- Suriname
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- Togo
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United States Virgin Islands
- Uruguay
- USA
- Uzbekistan
- Venezuela
- Vietnam