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Government Notice

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

No. 281

2021

AMENDMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH COVID-19 GENERAL REGULATIONS: PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH ACT, 2015

In terms of section 29(1) of the Public and Environmental Health Act, 2015 (Act No. 1 of 2015), I have amended the Public Health Covid-19 General Regulations published under Government Notice No. 91 of 30 April 2021 as set out in the Schedule.

DR. K. SHANGULA
MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Windhoek, 15 December 2021

SCHEDULE

Definitions

1. In these regulations “the Regulations” means the Public Health Covid-19 General Regulations published under Government Notice No. 91 of 30 April 2021 as amended by Government Notices No. 108 of 31 May 2021, No. 128 of 16 June 2021, No. 138 of 30 June 2021, No. 144 of 9 July 2021, No. 151 of 15 July 2021, No. 160 of 31 July 2021, No. 175 of 14 August 2021, No. 189

of 6 September 2021, No. 205 of 15 September 2021, No. 232 of 15 October 2021, No. 246 of 5 November 2021 and No. 249 of 15 November 2021.

Amendment of regulation 2 of Regulations

2. Regulation 2 of the Regulations is amended by the substitution for subregulation (2) of the following subregulation:

“(2) These regulations come into operation at 00:00 on 16 December 2021 and cease to have effect at 24:00 on 15 January 2022.”.

Amendment of regulation 4 of Regulations

3. Regulation 4 of the Regulations is amended by the substitution for subregulation (1) of the following subregulation:

“(1) For the purpose of these regulations, a “prohibited gathering” means a group of more than 200 persons.”.

Amendment of regulation 10 of Regulations

4. Regulation 10 of the Regulations is amended by the substitution for subregulation (2) of the following subregulation:

“(2) Sporting events are permitted, provided that the total number of spectators at the sporting event do not exceed 200 persons.”.

Amendment of regulation 11 of Regulations

5. Regulation 11 of the Regulations is amended by the substitution for subregulation (4) of the following subregulation:

“(4) Persons permitted to enter Namibia under subregulation (2) may not enter Namibia unless such persons at the time of entering Namibia presents to an authorised person a negative SARS-CoV2 PCR test result from the country of departure, which test result -

- (a) is not older than 72 hours calculated from the date that the sample for testing was taken; and
- (b) was issued by a laboratory that is certified in the country of issue to issue SARS-CoV-2 PCR test results.”.

Amendment of regulation 12 of Regulations

6. Regulation 12 of the Regulations is amended by -

- (a) the substitution for subregulation (1) of the following subregulation:

“(1) Unless exempted from quarantine requirements in terms of these regulations, persons who are permitted entry into Namibia under these regulations must, on entering Namibia, be subjected to quarantine as set out in these regulations and the directives.”;

- (b) the insertion after subregulation (1) of the following subregulations:

“(1A) Regardless of the fact that a person referred to in subregulation (1) presents a negative SARS-COV-2 PCR test result at a point of entry, persons referred to in subregulation (1) may upon entry into Namibia be randomly selected and subjected to a SARS-COV-2 PCR test.

(1B) If a randomly selected person referred to in subregulation (1A) tests positive for Covid-19 -

- (a) the test sample may be used by the Ministry for the purposes of genome sequencing, and
- (b) the person must be placed in isolation at his or her own cost.”; and

(c) the substitution for subregulation (2) of the following subregulation:

“(2) A person referred to in subregulation (1) who enters Namibia with a negative SARS-COV-2 PCR test result which is older than 72 hours calculated from the date that the sample for testing was taken must be tested for COVID-19, at his or her own cost and must be subjected to mandatory supervised quarantine while awaiting the test results and -

- (a) if that person tests positive for COVID-19 -
 - (i) he or she must be placed in isolation at his or her own cost;
 - (ii) the test sample may be used by the Ministry for the purposes of genome sequencing; and
- (b) if that person tests negative for COVID-19, he or she must be released from quarantine.”.

Amendment of regulation 19 of Regulations

7. Regulation 19 of the Regulations is amended in subregulation (3) by the substitution for paragraph (l) of the following paragraph:

- “(l) a total of 200 mourners, exclusive of persons who are providing critical services or essential goods in connection with the burial, memorial service or similar gathering, are allowed at the burial and at all memorial services or similar gatherings held in connection with the death of the deceased person and of these -
- (i) close family members are allowed at a distance of not less than three metres from the grave; and
 - (ii) other mourners are allowed at a distance of not less than 10 metres from the grave:

Provided that in all cases the persons conducting the burial must wear personal protective equipment as approved by an authorised person and maintain a physical distance of not less than two metres from each other;”.
