

Sundheds- og Ældreministeriet

Enhed: MEDINT
Sagsbeh.: DEPANKH
Koordineret med:
Sagsnr.: 2002669
Dok. nr.: 1149958
Dato: 10-03-2020

TALEPAPIR

Det talte ord gælder
[Ekstraordinært EPSCO-rådsmøde den 6. marts 2020]

Tale til ekstraordinært EPSCO rådsmøde 6. marts 2020

Thank you, Mr. President.

First, I would like to thank the Presidency, the Commission and all involved partners for their efforts in regards to COVID-19.

In line with international recommendations, the Danish strategy at the moment is to contain and delay the spread of COVID-19 through fast diagnosis, isolation of patients and contact tracing. But we are ready if the situation evolves with more COVID-19 positive cases at the same time.

So far, the confirmed cases in Denmark can be traced to areas with wide spread of COVID-19, but we are preparing for local spread and look at various risk scenarios.

This morning, the Danish Government announced a number of new measures, including a call on organizers of events with more than 1000 participants to postpone or cancel the events in question. For the time being, the call applies to events planned to take place in March.

It is also a priority to take measures to protect the groups in our society that are particularly vulnerable if they fall ill with COVID-19.

Therefore, the Danish Health Authority has decided that all health care professionals in direct contact with patients must stay at home for two weeks, if they return from areas with wide spread of COVID-19.

All other citizens are advised to stay at home for two weeks after they return from areas with wide spread.

I would also like to address the question of the potential impact of COVID-19 on the supply of medicines and medical devices.

In Denmark we have still not seen medicine supply failures. As regards medical devices and supplies, the situation seems to be more vulnerable.

We must take this potential challenge very seriously. I would like to ask the European Medicines Agency about their view and encourage EMA and the Commission to take the necessary steps to prevent shortages as a consequence of the COVID-19 outbreak.

Last but not least, I would like to draw your attention to the importance of having access to up-to-date information from Member States about the national response to COVID-19.

I would again strongly encourage that information about national measures to contain COVID-19 – and the reasons behind such measures – are shared quickly through the relevant EU systems in place. I also encourage the Commission to ensure that the information is systematized and shared with Member States.

Thank you.