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COVID-19(20)111

**TO: LABOUR AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
ALL MEMBERS & ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
BI WEEKLY MEMBERS MEETING PARTICIPANTS
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION GROUP PARTICIPANTS**

RECOMMENDED QUARANTINE & TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR SEAFARERS JOINING SHIPS

Action Required: Members are invited to note information below kindly provided by WHO and IMHA regarding recommended quarantine and testing requirements for seafarers joining ships.

The following resources can assist in providing best practice advice on the recommended quarantine & testing requirements for seafarers joining ships.

1. A list of globally approved and authorized PCR tests that WHO can recommend to Shipping Companies to use in liaison with health providers.

WHO Emergency Use Listing for SARS-CoV-2 in vitro diagnostic products at
https://www.who.int/diagnostics_laboratory/200625_eul_sars_cov2_product_list.pdf

2. WHO has advised on the current suitability of saliva tests and whether these are of value or not in verifying whether someone has COVID-19. Nasopharyngeal or oropharyngeal swabs (NPS/OPS) are the preferred sample type and are consistently more sensitive and reliable than saliva. However, if no other option is available a saliva test is better than nothing.
3. The current WHO COVID-19 testing protocol is undergoing revision but the latest version is available at <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/10665-331501>.
4. The IMHA recommended quarantine and testing requirements for seafarers joining a ship attached at Annex 1.

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