

Dear Staff,

At the end of February a Director General’s Notice had to be issued on how best to delay the appearance of coronavirus at Wigner RCP and what sanitary procedures to introduce in order to slow down the propagation of the impending epidemic. Thank you for having followed these recommendations.

Over the past week, it became known that there are also infected people in our county, so the risk level was upgraded. Therefore, the internal institutional procedures must also be complemented and, in addition to simple sanitary rules, certain limitations must also be introduced.

For simplicity’s sake, let us use the Erdős number principle. (We all have an Erdős number: those that have co-authored an article with Pál Erdős, have the Erdős number 1. Those that have written in collaboration with one of Erdős’ co-authors, have the Erdős number 2, and so on. See the web page <https://mathscinet.ams.org/mathscinet/freeTools.html?version=2> .)

So Coronavirus will be KOVIR number 0. A person proven to have been infected by it will have the KOVIR-number 1. These people are probably in hospital right now. A person who has spent a longer time with a KOVIR-1 person during the incubation phase of the disease has the KOVIR-number 2, so the probability of them having been infected is rather high. These people have probably already been quarantined. However, a person who has spent a shorter amount of time with a KOVIR-2 person during the incubation phase has a small probability of having been infected, although the possibility cannot be excluded. These will be KOVIR-3 persons. Staff returning from infected (red code) countries also fall under this category. KOVIR-3 persons are recommended to self-quarantine (e.g. in their own homes), and the two-week quarantine should be prolonged once, where appropriate. The categories could continue but KOVIR-4 and KOVIR-5 rate infections can at most be guessed at, not known. **So do not panic!**

As of today, the following recommendation / order is issued at Wigner RCP: if your status is KOVIR-3, retire to a voluntary, two-week quarantine, doing so not at your office or lab in Csillebérc but at your own home. Should you come under the radar of the authorities during the identification of a KOVIR-2 infected person, you must cooperate with the authorities as a responsible citizen, following general rules and protocols for public health and safety. The **National Center for Public Health** provides constantly updated, detailed and factual information about the current status of the epidemic: <https://www.nnk.gov.hu/index.php/koronavirus-tajekoztatok>

For the duration of voluntary quarantine, a “**home office**” status can be issued, in which case no loss of pay will be incurred. The “home office” status can be obtained by emailing titkarsag@wigner.hu, briefly describing one’s situation, whether they may have infected colleagues at Wigner RCP and how long the status should be maintained. Secretaries working at the management will issue a receipt of the demand. Copies should also be sent to one’s research team leader and department head, thereby informing them of the demand. If one or both leaders disagree with the demand, this should be indicated to the management. KOVIR-3 staff must keep their immediate superiors up to date on their state. (At the moment we have one KOVIR-3 staff member at Wigner RCP who is in home quarantine.)

KOVIR-4 and KOVIR-5 staff must do all in their power not to move higher on the list.

Heads of units ensuring the continuous operation of Wigner RCP (Secretariat, Finance Department, Computer Center, Wigner Data Center) are required to complement their internal procedure rules by adding a procedure for validating „remote work” and to send this to the Secretariat.

All Wigner Staff are kindly requested to behave responsibly and adhere to the rules of hygiene.

Best regards,

Péter J. Lévai, director general