

NATIONAL COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE (NaCOVERC)



LUNGI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PASSENGERS' COVID-19 SCREENING DIGEST



Welcome to Sierra Leone

The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone is making every effort to keep Sierra Leone safe and reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission during this global pandemic. COVID-19 screening has been set up at Lungi International Airport, and visitors must comply with all processes to be allowed entry.

What is the COVID-19 screening process?

After you have gone through immigration, collected your luggage, and cleared customs, you will be asked to go through a COVID-19 screening process.

- 1 Passport & payment check:** An airport official will ask to see your passport so they can check that you have paid for the COVID-19 tests. If you haven't, you will be asked to make cash payment of \$80 or its equivalent in Leones at the airport bank teller.
- 2 Health screening:** Your temperature will be taken and you will be asked some questions about your general health.
- 3 COVID-19 testing:** Next, you will be tested for COVID-19 by trained laboratory personnel via two different testing methods.

A rapid diagnostic test (RDT) will be done by taking a blood sample from your finger. The blood will be used to detect any viral antibodies in your system and you will receive your results within 15 minutes.

A diagnostic test (RT-PCR) will be done by taking a nasal swab. The swab will be sent to the reference laboratory in Freetown and analysed. You will receive your result in 24 – 72 hours.



Children under five years old will not be tested.

Why do I need to take two tests?

RDT tests give results quicker but are less accurate than RT-PCR tests. Therefore, an RT-PCR test still needs to be conducted to confirm the result of the RDT test.



What happens if I receive a positive RDT test at the airport?



If your RDT test is positive, you will be asked to quarantine at a facility near the airport until your RT-PCR test results are available. A positive result means you have viral antibodies, which could mean that you have had COVID-19 in the past, or that you have it now, even if you feel fine. Therefore, it is important that you quarantine until the RT-PCR test results are

shared and can confirm your status.

You will be safely transported to the quarantine facility by private vehicle and provided with modest social amenities during your short stay.

You will receive your RT-PCR test results from a healthcare worker within 24-72 hours.

If you are travelling with your children and a child or caregiver in your group tests positive, a healthcare worker will talk to you to make suitable arrangements for your family. Children will not be quarantined unless parental consent is given.



What happens if I receive a negative RDT test at the airport?

If your RDT test is negative, you are free to leave the airport but should isolate at home until you receive your RT-PCR test results. A negative result means you don't have any viral antibodies, which suggests you don't have COVID-19 now, however, this still needs to be confirmed by the RT-PCR results. It is important you isolate at home until the RT-PCR test results are shared and can confirm your status. Avoid family and social gatherings and do not go out in public.

You will receive your RT-PCR test results by text message, phone call, email or visit from a COVID-19 response worker within 24-72 hours.

What happens if my RT-PCR test result is positive?

You will be visited by a healthcare worker who will give further guidance and instruction. You will have to home isolate or quarantine for two weeks and your contacts will be contacted.

What happens if my RT-PCR test result is negative?

You can continue with your work and social activities but must abide by the country's COVID-19 regulations and restrictions in order to keep yourself and others, safe. For more information on current regulations and restrictions, call 117 or go online to coronafet.link/info or facebook.com/mic.gov.sl.

What should I do if I don't receive my RT-PCR test result in 72 hours?



All efforts are being made to ensure visitors receive their RT-PCR test results in 24-72 hours, however delays may occur. If more than 72 hours have passed and you haven't received your test results, call 117 quoting your name, date of arrival, airline, reference number or travel ID number, and local phone number that you can be contacted on.

COVID-19 is in Sierra Leone, protect yourself and others:



Wash your hands frequently.



Clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that has at least 60% alcohol.



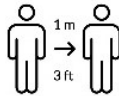
Don't Hug, kiss and shake hands while greeting.



Don't Touch surfaces usually used by public (Railing, door, gate, etc).



Wear a face mask in public places.



Maintain social distancing.



Stay home wherever possible



If you have a fever, cough and difficulty breathing, call 117

For more information, call 117 or go online to coronafet.link/info or facebook.com/mic.gov.sl.

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