



## **Covid-19 : Weekly Situation Bulletin**

28th of December 2020

### **Epidemic situation in Europe**

The previous week was marked by a significant stabilisation of the incidence rate in the European countries where the Korian group is present. With the exception of the Netherlands, where the situation remains tense with a rate that continues to rise to 965/100,000, this rate is stable or slightly down in Italy, Germany, France, Belgium and Spain.

### **Epidemic situation in the Korian network**

On 23 December, 237 retirement homes had at least one positive case, 28% of the European network, compared to 226 last week with about 3,1% (2,297) of residents positive for coronavirus. 128 of the affected establishments have 4 cases and more (4S), i.e. 15% of the medico-social network.

As in previous weeks, the majority of the positive persons (92%) remain asymptomatic (more than 7 people out of 10) or pauci-symptomatic, and only 8% present a symptomatology requiring, among other things, oxygen therapy.

34 establishments emerged from the epidemic phase this week, several of which were in 4S.

Since 1 November, 5,648 residents have recovered from Covid-19, of which 2,901 in December and 652 in the last 7 days. In total, nearly 12,560 residents have recovered from Covid-19 since the beginning of the epidemic.

### **Vaccination against Covid-19 : update on the situation in Europe**

The European Medicines Agency gave its favourable opinion on Monday 21 December to the vaccine developed by the Pfizer/BioNTech laboratories, allowing the official launch of the vaccination campaign simultaneously in the 27 countries of the European Union.

The Italian Health Minister presented the "unprecedented vaccination campaign" scheduled to begin on 27<sup>th</sup> of December and which "will require an extraordinary mobilisation of all the forces involved". The vaccine will be free and not compulsory, the government assures. From the first quarter of 2021, 9 million doses will be administered each month.

In Belgium, the first vaccinations will take place on Monday 28 December in three retirement homes in the country.

Germany began its first vaccinations in retirement homes on 27 December. The federal government plans to distribute more than 1.3 million doses of vaccine by the end of the year.

In France, the Ministry of Solidarity and Health published a detailed protocol on 22 December for organising vaccinations in EHPADs. The first vaccination campaign against Covid-19 also began on 27 December in 2 establishments but will remain symbolic as it should only concern a few dozen residents.

In the Netherlands, the first vaccinations will take place on 8 January. Unlike other countries, the Dutch government's vaccination strategy is aimed primarily at healthcare professionals and not the elderly.

In Spain, vaccination against Covid-19 is due to start on 28 December with elderly residents and staff of retirement homes. The vaccination remains voluntary, but the health ministry said it will register those who refuse it. This information will be included in a "vaccination register" of each citizen.

### **Vaccination against Covid-19 in the Korian network**

Our European network is fully mobilised for this campaign. As early as Sunday, the first vaccinations for elderly people and volunteer health workers took place in three of the Group's establishments in Germany: in Saxony, at the Haus an der Linde retirement home in Lichtentanne ; in Bavaria, at the Park retirement home in Lobberich and the Heide retirement home in Germering, in the presence in particular of Melanie Huml, Bavaria's Minister of Health. By the end of next week, around 10% of our 184 retirement homes in Germany should receive their first vaccinations. The campaign will be rapidly launched in the Group's other countries, according to the schedules set by the authorities.

In France, the campaign will be preceded by an information period for residents and their families, before giving way to pre-vaccination consultations and the collection of consents. The first large-scale vaccinations could therefore begin around mid-January.

Vaccination, which protects the most vulnerable people against serious forms of Covid-19, is not compulsory. It is up to each person concerned to indicate, with knowledge of the associated risks/benefits, if they wish to benefit from the vaccination.

**Doctor Didier Armaingaud,**  
Medical, Ethics & Quality of Service  
Director of the Korian Group

Korian is Europe's leading Care Group serving the elderly and frail. It is present in France, Germany, Italy, Belgium, Spain and the Netherlands. In total, the Group has 963 establishments: 708 nursing homes, 147 shared flats and serviced residences, 108 clinics and 229 homecare agencies.

1.Incidence: number of new cases per 100,000 people per week with an epidemic threshold of 50/100,000.