

MEDIA RELEASE

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COVID-19: CANTON OF THURGAU COMMISSIONS HIRSLANDEN WITH IMPLEMENTING REPEAT TESTING

The Canton of Thurgau has signed an agreement with the Hirslanden Group for repetitive testing in schools. After the autumn vacation, all repeat testing procedures can be handled via the IT and logistics platform «TOGETHER WE TEST».

Hirslanden has developed the IT and logistics platform «TOGETHER WE TEST», which coordinates all repeat testing services. In addition to COVID-19 vaccinations, hygiene and distancing regulations and contact tracing, repeat testing is an important element in monitoring and containing the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

PCR saliva tests are used for the repeat tests. These can be carried out quickly, easily and without specialist help; the evaluations then take place in the laboratory. They are better than rapid antigen tests in terms of sensitivity, especially in asymptomatic persons. Not least for this reason, preventive repeat testing plays a central role.

Thurgau is the twelfth canton to commission the Hirslanden Group to conduct repeat testing. Schools in the Canton of Thurgau wishing to participate in the testing can start the programme after the autumn vacation.

More than 6,500 companies, schools and organisations are currently using the «TOGETHER WE TEST» platform, which has already been used to evaluate more than 2.1 million tests. The «Pool tests for all» project will be launched throughout Switzerland on 15 October to allow individuals and organisations to participate in pool tests, regardless of the test concept applied in their cantons.

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About Hirslanden

The Hirslanden Group operates 17 hospitals in 10 cantons, many of which have an emergency department. It also operates 4 outpatient surgical units, 17 radiology institutes and 5 radiotherapy institutes. Together with public and private cooperation partners, Hirslanden focuses on the continuum of care and the promoting of high-quality, responsible, personalised and efficiently integrated healthcare.

The Group has 2,314 partner doctors and 10,711 employees, 479 of whom are permanently employed doctors. Hirslanden is the largest medical network in Switzerland. In the 2020/21 financial year the Group generated a turnover of CHF 1,796 million (including CHF 12.6 million cantonal COVID-19 compensation payments). As at 31 March 2021, the Group had treated 107,401 patients for a total of 461,004 in-patient days. In insurance terms, the patient mix consists of 51 % basic, 28.8 % semi-private, and 20.2 % private insured patients.

Hirslanden is synonymous with first-class medical care provided by highly qualified medical specialists with many years of experience. As a system provider, the Group stands out from the rest of the market: interdisciplinary medical centres of expertise and specialised institutes enable it to offer the best possible individualised treatment, even in highly complex cases. The Hirslanden Group was formed in 1990 through the merger of several hospitals. Since 2007, it has been part of the international hospital group Mediclinic International plc, which is listed on the London Stock Exchange.