

**The General Health Council declared Covid-19 as a serious disease of priority attention, confirming the preventive measures taken by the Federal Government, without establishing additional or different measures.**

Even though the information is constantly updated, we suggest that you review our latest published newsletter and, if in doubt, contact us directly.

The General Health Council ("CSG" for its acronym in Spanish) took the following determinations, regarding Covid-19:

1. The Covid-19 epidemic is recognized as a serious disease of priority attention, which implies the free provision of basic health services, medicines and other supplies necessary for its treatment. Private health providers are obliged to collaborate as part of the National Health System.
2. The measures regarding the preparation, prevention, and control of the Covid-19 epidemic which were designed, coordinated and supervised by the Ministry of Health and implemented by the legislative and judicial powers, the institutions of the National Health System, entities of the Federal Public Administration, the governments of the Federal Entities and several the social and private sectors, were approved.
3. The Ministry of Health will be responsible for determining the necessary measures for the prevention and control of the Covid-19 epidemic, in coordination with the entities and dependencies responsible for their implementation;
4. The governments of the Federal Entities and the members of the National Health System are urged to define the hospital reconvention plans<sup>1</sup> to guarantee the immediate attention of Covid-19 cases; and
5. The CSG will be held in permanent session until further notice.

The previous determinations imply that the CSG supported the measures taken by the Federal Government and validated the strategy of preparation, prevention, and control of the Covid-19

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<sup>1</sup> This implies modifying the hospital system to attend to Covid-19 patients who require hospitalization.

epidemic undertaken by the latter, therefore, at the moment, no additional or different measures were nor will be implemented.

Due to the above, it is important for our clients:

- Preventively and proactively define essential jobs and processes (and, by exclusion, non-essential ones) as well as human and material resources associated with them, to comply with eventual additional measures and, above all, protect the health of its collaborators;
- Preventively also, make an inventory of the different technological tools to allow off-site work. Likewise, it is recommended to review the cybersecurity conditions as well;
- Review contracts with customers and suppliers to determine their obligations in the presence of events constituting fortuitous event, force majeure, governmental action, acts of authority, governmental force majeure and the like, to determine if the possible measures that have been discussed fit in any of these scenarios and therefore invoked by one of the parties as excluding liability in case of breach of obligations;
- Although today the CSG has not declared Covid-19 as a pandemic, it is important to highlight that the following Federal powers, federal entities, and agencies, have decided to take on the following measures:
  - o The Judicial Branch suspended jurisdictional activities from March 18 to April 19, 2020;
  - o The Federal Court of Administrative Justice suspended all jurisdictional and administrative activities from Tuesday, March 18 and until Sunday, April 19;
  - o The Senate of the Republic approved that pregnant or lactating women, mothers with children under the age of eight, over 65 years old and people with a risk factor who work in the Senate of the Republic can exempt themselves from going to their workplaces, until further notice;
  - o The Chamber of Deputies approved that, from March 18, 2020, and until further notice, that people over 60, workers who are pregnant, and those with chronic non-communicable diseases, COPD (chronic obstructive pulmonary disease), diabetes, cardiovascular diseases and those with symptoms of respiratory diseases, shall not attend to work.
  - o The Federal Economic Competition Commission agreed that, from March 23 and until April 20, there will be no deadlines or terms for the procedures processed before this authority, except for the procedures related to merger analysis and opinions on bidding processes, concessions, permits and other similar procedures.

- The Labour Courts suspended hearings and proceedings from March 23 to April 19, 2020, so no legal terms will preclude in ordinary and special procedures, individual or collective, except for the striking procedure;
- The Tax Administration Service suspended, as of March 17, the services in the Internet rooms of the decentralized administrations and tax modules services, on the other hand, it established that the services of "Password Generation and Update" and the issuance of "Record of Fiscal Situation" will be exclusively attended by appointment. However, it is important to clarify that the SAT continues to operate in a normal way, so requirements, notifications, visits, etc., may be made, in the exercise of its verification faculties, for which it is recommended to be alert to the tax inbox, as well as to any personal diligence that may be carried out in the fiscal domicile of the taxpayer.

The previous may affect legal deadlines, for which we recommend to check case by case the impact of such measures in each procedure.

- To determine the possible scenarios from a labor point of view, it is at your disposal the *Informative Newsletter. Covid-19. Labor Implications.*

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