***INSTRUCTION PAGE I***



**Following is a template letter** that can be used in the situation where you are refusing a PCR test for your child when in MIQ.

If you have been forwarded this letter by a friend, family member or colleague then please go to <https://voicesforfreedom.co.nz/resources> to see the other letters regarding PCR tests, masks and vaccination.

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**Self isolation if jabbed**

From 11.59pm Sunday 13 March 2022, certain fully vaccinated people can enter New Zealand from anywhere in the world and self-isolate upon arrival (they are New Zealand citizens and residents, other eligible travellers under current border settings, skilled workers earning at least 1.5x the median wage, travellers on a working holiday scheme, partners and dependent children of New Zealand citizens and residents, provided they meet the usual visa and vaccination requirements. A family group does not need to travel to New Zealand together. [Self-isolation requirements (external link)](https://covid19.govt.nz/international-travel/travel-to-new-zealand/when-new-zealand-borders-open/#self-isolation-requirements) – Unite against COVID-19

**MIQ if not jabbed**

**Unvaccinated New Zealand citizens, and those who do not meet New Zealand’s vaccination requirements for self-isolation, who are eligible to enter New Zealand will still have to go through managed isolation and quarantine (MIQ).** <https://www.miq.govt.nz/travel-to-new-zealand/entering-new-zealand-in-2022/>

**Currently 7 day isolation**

COVID-19 Public Health Response (Isolation and Quarantine) Order 2020, Clause 10 has recently changed the Period of isolation or quarantine to 7 days:[[1]](#footnote-0)

(1) A person’s **period of isolation or quarantine** is—

(a) the period ending at the same time of day as, but on the 7th day after, their start time if the chief executive is satisfied that the person meets the low-risk indicators, as determined—

 (i) as close as is reasonably practicable to the end of that period; and

 (ii) based on the advice of a suitably qualified health practitioner; or

(b) any longer period needed to satisfy the chief executive, based on the advice of a suitably qualified health practitioner, that the person meets the low-risk indicators, but no longer than the period ending at the same time of day as, but on the 20th day after, their start time.

***INSTRUCTION PAGE iii***



**HOW TO USE THIS LETTER?**

1. Read the letter carefully so that you understand what you are sending – this letter is your letter.
2. The points you need to complete or closely consider for your situation are highlighted yellow. Keep this information factual and do not hesitate to get it checked by a friend, colleague or family member.
3. This letter is only to be used in the situation where you are refusing a PCR test on behalf of your child when in MIQ.
4. Do not forget to include your email in the letter so that the Facility Manager knows where to respond to you in writing.
5. Sign off the letter.
6. Print or email the letter – make sure you keep a copy. **DO NOT** include these first three pages of instructions with your letter.

The Facility Manager will likely respond to this letter confirming your position. However, if they do not, then you will need to consider their response and may need to obtain further advice specific to your situation.

**YOUR header name/ contact details**

**DATE URGENT**

 BY HAND OR EMAIL

**Facility Manager**

**Managed Isolation and Quarantine at [insert facility location]**

**Ministry of Business Immigration and Employment**

FOR: insert name if known of facility manager

**COVID-19 TESTING OF MY CHILD**

1. As you are aware, my child/ren and I are currently at the Managed Isolation and Quarantine operating out of [insert facility location] (**Facility**).
2. We arrived in New Zealand on [insert date and time]. This was the ‘start time’ of our period of isolation or quarantine. The end of our minimum 7 day period of isolation and quarantine is therefore [insert date, being the 7th day after your ‘start time’] (**Release Date**).
3. I will not allow my child/ren undergo the invasive polymerase chain reaction (**PCR**) test. My child is [age] old, the test is dangerous and unreliable, and other acceptable examinations/tests are available, which I am content for my child/ren to undergo such as temperature and to have her chest listened to with a stethoscope.

**Other acceptable medical examinations and tests**

1. We may only be detained, following our initial 14 day period of isolation and quarantine, if the chief executive of the Ministry of Business, Immigration and Employment (**MBIE**) is not satisfied that we have met the ‘low-risk indicators’, as defined in clause 4 of the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Isolation and Quarantine) Order 2020 (**Order**).
2. The assessment as to whether or not we meet the low-risk indicators must take place as close as reasonably practicable to the end of our initial 7 day period of isolation and quarantine.
3. The COVID-19 Public Health Response (Isolation and Quarantine) Order 2020[[2]](#footnote-1) defines low-risk indicators as meaning that:
	1. the person—
		1. has undergone the **medical examination and testing** required to assess whether they have COVID-19, with a negative result; or
		2. has been **determined by a medical officer of health or health protection officer to have particular physical or other needs that make it inappropriate for them to undergo that medical examination and testing**; and
	2. other medical tests or information relating to the person (if any) indicate that the person is at low risk of having or transmitting COVID-19.
4. The Order defines ‘**medical examination and testing**’ that involves any of (or a combination of any of) the following:
	1. taking temperatures;
	2. seeking and obtaining information about symptoms;
	3. carrying out chest auscultation;
	4. taking nose swabs or mouth swabs (or both).
5. I confirm that I am content for my child/ren be submitted to regular medical assessments, such as being asked about any symptoms (where possible), undergo temperature tests and chest auscultation.
6. If there is any issue with this then please have the medical officer of health or health protection officer confirm that my child/ren is/are not required to undergo the invasive PCR test as it is inappropriate for her to undergo that specific medical examination and testing.

**Release**

1. At this stage, there is no reasonable basis for the chief executive of MBIE to conclude that we have not met the low-risk indicators.
2. At present, there is no lawful basis for the threat of continued detention beyond our Release Date (initial 7-day period of isolation and quarantine).
3. Should we be detained beyond our Release Date, then any detention will be unlawful and in breach of our right, amongst other entitlements, not to be arbitrarily detained in section 22 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

Sincerely

**Your Name**

**Your contact details**

1. <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2020/0241/latest/LMS401667.html#LMS401666> [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. <https://www.legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2020/0241/latest/LMS401701.html> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)