

## **Supreme Administrative Court confirms that online testing using telemedicine should not be discriminated against**

**Prague, Brno (January 8, 2022) – The Ministry of Health's September 2021 measures, which set different duration of recognizing negative antigen tests, were contrary to the law. A test performed directly by a healthcare professional was recognized for 72 hours, while a test under the online supervision of a healthcare professional was valid for 24 hours. According to a decision of the Supreme Administrative Court (SAC), the authority did not provide a sufficiently clear justification for the difference.**

According to the company Doktor na telefonu, which runs the [onlinetestovani.cz](https://onlinetestovani.cz) project, testing using the online service is at least qualitatively comparable to in-office testing.

According to the company, online testing has enormous potential to improve the quality and accessibility of health services. "Therefore, we believe that the state will perceive the court's verdict not only as a warning to prevent similar cases of discrimination against online services in health care, but most importantly as an impulse to support the use of secure video calls and other elements of telemedicine," said Vladislav Jirka, legal counsel for the [onlinetestovani.cz](https://onlinetestovani.cz) project.

The substitution of direct personal contact between the health professional and the person being tested, during which transmission of infection can occur, is such an essential benefit in times of pandemic that it cannot be overlooked and not taken full advantage of by the Ministry of Health.

"We therefore approach the whole situation constructively, we believe in the online testing project and we consider this form of testing to be necessary and beneficial. Especially given the difficult situation in which the classical health care is now. We are therefore not considering compensation for the illegal procedure at the moment. On the contrary, we are offering a helping hand to the state by expanding the testing capacity and availability of testing through our service," added Vladislav Jirka.