



Strasbourg, the 15 April 2020

Dear Professor Štěřba,

The health crisis linked to the COVID 19 epidemic is unprecedented and affects all countries of the European Union.

Since the beginning of March, the situation in the French Grand Est region has deteriorated considerably. It has put our health system under high pressure. In particular, it has necessitated the doubling of intensive care capacities in the region and requires an extraordinary mobilisation of our hospital staff on a daily basis.

Despite these efforts and in view of the growing epidemic, the Grand Est region was in need of support.

You have responded to our call for help by providing us with intensive care unit beds in your hospital in Brno. With this offer, you have made a considerable contribution to transnational cooperation in the health sector. This European solidarity in a health crisis is unprecedented in its scope.

Since the first week-end of April we have noticed a slight improvement of the situation in our region. For this reason transfers of patients abroad have been temporarily suspended. We hope that this trend will be confirmed, but we must remain very cautious.

On behalf of all the citizens of the Grand Est region, we would like to thank you sincerely for your solidarity gesture and the efforts you have undertaken to receive our patients.

May your support serve as an example for future European cooperation, reflecting the trust and sympathy that unite the Czech Republic and France.

With deep gratitude,

Respectfully,

La Préfète
de la région Grand Est,

Josiane Chevalier

Le Président
de la région Grand Est,

Jean Rottner

La Directrice Générale
de l'ARS Grand Est,

Dr M-A DESAILLY-CHANSON

Mr Jaroslav Štěřba M.D., Ph.D.
Professor of Oncology and Pediatrics
Director
University Hospital Brno
Jihlavská 20
625 00 BRNO
Czech Republic