

ZDHC MRSL Level 3 Conformance Interim Virtual Audit

September 2020 V1.0

As a consequence of the current COVID-19 health and travel restrictions, in-person audits have been difficult, and at times impossible to conduct. **Virtual Audits** have been proposed to temporarily manage this situation through video communications. The ZDHC MRSL Level 3 Conformance: Interim Virtual Audit Guidance document is intended to provide guidance for conducting virtual ZDHC MRSL Level 3 audits. It is not intended to replace any specific Level 3 audit content. Virtual auditing is considered temporary accommodation during COVID-19 that will be **accepted only through 1 January 2021**. After that point, the COVID-19 situation will be re-evaluated and the ZDHC will either extend, amend, or dismantle the virtual audit procedure.

- The virtual audit is NOT intended to replace an in-person audit and is only to be used to bypass COVID-19 health and travel restrictions. An in-person audit is required where it is possible and safe
- When the virtual audit is completed without any representative on-site from the auditor, the customer will be granted a provisional Level 3 certificate. An on-site in-person audit will be required when travel restrictions and health concerns ease to complete the audit and remove the provisional status.
- The certifications granted by virtual audits must include a notice stating the audit was performed virtually due to COVID-19.

