# **VACCINATE OR REGULAR TEST REGIME FOR THE F&B SECTOR**

1. With effect from 1 October 2021, in addition to the Fast and Easy Testing (FET)<sup>1</sup> regime, F&B establishments <sup>2</sup> ("Enterprises") are required to implement the Vaccinate or Regular Test ("VoRT") regime. Enterprises must comply with the mandatory requirements that are set out in this notice. For avoidance of doubt, the mandatory requirements are specified in the paragraphs below prefaced with the words '[Mandatory]'

# **Background**

- 2. The purpose of the VoRT regime is to increase the vaccination rate among the selected sectors and to empower Enterprises to detect possible infections among unvaccinated persons, so as to keep their workplaces and community safe.
- 3. Under the VoRT regime, Enterprises are required to ensure that <u>all their employees</u><sup>3</sup> and persons who work under their direction<sup>4</sup> (e.g. contractors and subcontractors) that (a) work in dine-in outlets; or (b) as last-mile food delivery personnel<sup>5</sup> ("Workers"), are Fully Vaccinated or undergo regular testing if they are not. The VoRT regime will apply concurrently with any existing Polymerase Chain Reaction Rostered Routine Testing ("PCR RRT") or Fast and Easy Testing Rostered Routine Testing ("FET RRT") regime that these persons are currently subject to (see paragraph 7 below for more details).
- 4. The VoRT regime and the mandatory requirements set out in this notice are imposed on Enterprises under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020. Failure to comply with the requirements set out herein may result in prosecution and/or other enforcement action, including suspension/closure of operations. Checks will be conducted by enforcement teams to verify if Enterprises have complied with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> FET Notice can be accessed at <a href="https://gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/sector/">https://gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/sector/</a> under the F&B section.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> F&B establishments include retail liquor establishments operating under the pilot for bars and pubs and includes self-employed persons, stall holders and business owners.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This includes both full and part time employees such as stall assistants and part-time stall assistants. Individuals who have recovered from a COVID-19 infection in the past 270 days are exempted from the FET Requirement.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> This includes contractors, subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace (e.g. cleaners). This also includes business owners such as sole proprietors and partners who work at the workplace.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Last mile delivery personnel refer to persons involved in the direct delivery of goods to residential addresses. Enterprises are responsible for ensuring last mile food delivery personnel undergo regular testing. This includes delivery personnel under the employment of catering companies. Testing for third-party delivery personnel (e.g. delivery personnel working for food delivery platforms or third party logistics providers) will be coordinated by the platform logistics partner.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Enterprises are reminded to comply with the other requirements imposed under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 and implement the <u>Safe Management Measures ("SMMs"</u>) as set out on the <u>COVID Gobusiness website</u>. They are also reminded to comply with the relevant <u>SMMs</u> that have been set out by Enterprise Singapore (ESG), Housing & Development Board (HDB), Singapore Food Agency (SFA), Sport Singapore (SportSG), National Environment Agency (NEA), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Singapore Tourism Board (STB) and Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA).

# **VoRT Requirements for Enterprises**

- 5. [Mandatory] All Enterprises must ensure that all their Workers (as defined in paragraph 3 above) are (A) Fully Vaccinated (as defined in paragraph 8 below) or (B) undergo a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction Test ("PCR") or COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test ("ART") twice a week ("VoRT Requirement") and on separate days within that week. For the avoidance of doubt, if an Enterprise consists of only one self-employed person, he or she must comply with the VoRT Requirement as well.
- 6. Enterprises must guide their Workers who are not Fully Vaccinated to maintain a 3 to 4 day interval between their weekly tests (e.g. if a Worker's first test of the week is carried out on Tuesday, his or her second test of the week should be carried out on Saturday or Sunday).
- 7. Enterprises whose Workers are subject to existing PCR RRT or FET RRT regimes can recognise any PCR test or ART undergone by those Workers under those regimes during a given week as counting towards the Enterprises' testing requirement for those Workers (if they are not Fully Vaccinated) under the VoRT Requirement for that same week. For example, if an Enterprise has a Worker who is not Fully Vaccinated that underwent a PCR test as part of the RRT regime once during the week, the Enterprise is allowed to recognise that Worker's PCR test as satisfying one of the two weekly testing requirements for that Worker under the VoRT Requirement.
- 8. For the purposes of the VoRT Requirement and this notice, a Worker is considered to be "Fully Vaccinated" for the periods set out in the third column of <u>Table 1</u> below if he or she fulfils the relevant requirements for those periods as set out in the corresponding second columns.

Table 1: Fully Vaccinated

| Category |                                     | Requirement(s) |  | Period   |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------------|--|--|
| (1)      | Vaccinated with no prior            | (a)            | Individual must not have had a history of COVID-19 infection;  | Starting 14 days after the day the                               |
|          | history of<br>COVID-19<br>infection | (c)            | Individual must have been vaccinated against a COVID-19 infection by the administration of the appropriate regimen of any approved vaccine <sup>8</sup> ; and 14 days or more have elapsed after the day the individual was so vaccinated. | individual was so<br>vaccinated and<br>ending 365 days<br>later. |
| (2)      | Recovered from COVID-               | (a)            | Individual must not have been vaccinated against COVID-19 infection; and   | Starting the day the individual first                            |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The ART test <u>must</u> be carried out (1) by an approved test provider under the Infectious Diseases (Antigen Rapid Test Providers); (2) via ESSS (refer to paragraphs 14 to 21 below); or (3) by a QTC (refer to paragraph 13 below). For avoidance of doubt, unsupervised self-swabs by Workers are not recognised.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> These are limited to: (1) Tozinameran (Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine or Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine); (2) Moderna COVID-19 vaccine; (3) Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine); (4) Covishield COVID-19 vaccine; (5) Johnson & Johnson's (J&J) Janssen COVID-19 vaccine; (6) Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine; (7) Sinovac-CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine; or (8) any other vaccine regimen as approved by the Ministry of Health (MOH). Where the individual is vaccinated under (3) to (8), their vaccination records must have been ingested into MOH's national IT systems before they will be recognised. Please refer to the First Schedule of the Infectious Diseases (Mass Gathering Testing for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Regulations 2021) for the most updated information on the vaccination regimen and approved vaccines

|     | 19 infection without prior vaccination  | (b)               | Individual must have recovered from COVID-<br>19 infection.  | tested positive for<br>SARS-CoV-2 via a<br>PCR test and<br>ending 270 days<br>later.  |
|-----|---|-------------------|--|---|
|     |   | (a)<br>(b)<br>(c) | Individual must not have been vaccinated against COVID-19 infection; and Individual must have recovered from COVID-19 infection; and Individual had a second COVID-19 infection and recovered from it.   | Starting the day the individual first tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 upon via a PCR test for the second COVID-19 infection and ending 270 days later. |
| (3) | Recovered<br>from COVID-<br>19 infection<br>and<br>subsequently<br>vaccinated | (a)<br>(b)<br>(c) | Individual must have recovered from COVID-19 infection Individual must have been vaccinated against a COVID-19 infection by the administration of one dose of any approved vaccine <sup>9</sup> ; and 14 days or more have elapsed after the day the individual was so vaccinated. | Starting 14 days<br>after the day the<br>individual was so<br>vaccinated and<br>ending 365 days<br>later.   |

- 9. [Mandatory] When verifying if a Worker is Fully Vaccinated, Enterprises shall:
  - (1) only recognise the proofs of vaccination as set out in **Annex A**; and
  - (2) regard Workers who decline or are unable to produce the proofs of vaccination as set out in **Annex A** as being **not** Fully Vaccinated for the purposes of the VoRT Requirement and this notice.
- 10. **[Mandatory]** If a Worker is not Fully Vaccinated and has undergone PCR/ART as part of the Enterprises' VoRT Requirement, Enterprises shall verify<sup>10</sup> that Worker's PCR/ART test.
- 11. Where the Worker has obtained an "AG+" test result, Enterprises are strongly recommended to guide the Worker to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>.
- 12. To meet the twice weekly testing requirements for Workers that are not Fully Vaccinated under the VoRT Requirement, Enterprises should conduct **Employer-Supervised Self-Swab** ("**ESSS**") for their Workers. ESSS involves having these Workers use an ART test kit to carry out a swab on themselves under the supervision of a trained supervisor. Details on how to conduct ESSS are set out in paragraphs 14 to 20 below.
- 13. Enterprises that operate small businesses such as hawkers, who are not able to organise their own ESSS may have their Workers go to the Quick Test Centres ("QTC(s)") for their tests. The relevant Government agencies will progressively reach

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Please refer to footnote S/N, 12.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Enterprises are required to inspect any physical test result slip, SMS or test kit evidencing the test result of the Worker. It would not be sufficient for Enterprises to rely on oral statements by Workers to fulfill this obligation.

out to Enterprises to provide more details on how their Workers can secure an appointment to undergo FET at a QTC.

### Requirements for Enterprises that conduct ESSS

- 14. ESSS involves Workers using an ART kit and performing a swab on themselves under the supervision of a supervisor ("**Supervisor**"). The swabbing and supervision can be done either at the workplace or virtually using digital tools such as video conferencing.
- 15. [Mandatory] Enterprises conducting ESSS for their Workers shall:
  - (1) appoint an adequate number of Supervisors to supervise every Worker whenever they carry out the swabs on themselves;
  - (2) **[Updated as of 8 November 2021]** ensure that the Supervisor properly performs his supervisory role<sup>11</sup>;
  - (3) ensure that Workers comply with the steps set out in paragraph 18 below and properly perform the swabs on themselves;
  - (4) ensure that the test results obtained by Workers from ESSS are uploaded on the Swab Registration System ("SRS") in accordance with the requirements set out under paragraph 19 below; and
  - (5) ensure that the ART test kits used for ESSS are those that are set out on the Health Sciences Authority's website at <a href="https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/covid19\_ARTselftests">https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/covid19\_ARTselftests</a>.
- 15A. Where Workers have obtained 'AG+' test results while conducting ESSS, Enterprises are recommended to strongly encourage them to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>.

## Requirements for Supervisors

- 16. **[Mandatory] [Updated as of 8 November 2021]** If a Supervisor is above 50 years old, Enterprises must ensure that he or she is Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19<sup>12</sup> (refer to paragraph 8 for the definition of Fully Vaccinated) before they can perform any supervisory role.
- 17. **[Updated as of 8 November 2021]** Enterprises that are conducting ESSS are advised to nominate one to two Workers per outlet to perform the role of the Supervisor

<sup>12</sup> Enterprises can consider asking Supervisors to verify their vaccination status via TraceTogether.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> This includes wearing adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting supervision, and being familiar with how ART kis are to be correctly used

### Conduct of ESSS by Workers

- 18. [Mandatory] Enterprises are required to ensure that their Workers shall:
  - (1) be supervised<sup>13</sup> by a Supervisor whenever they carry out ESSS;
  - (2) use new ART test kits whenever they carry out ESSS; and
  - (3) properly dispose of used ART test kits after they have carried out ESSS<sup>14</sup>.
- 18A. Where Workers have obtained an "AG+" test result while conducting ESSS, Enterprises are recommended to strongly encourage them to undertake a follow-up ART test and to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>.

Uploading of Test Results onto the Swab Registration System ("SRS")

- 19. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises are required to upload the test results obtained by their Workers from ESSS onto SRS in accordance with the following:
  - (1) [Updated as of 1 November 2021] if the test result is "AG+", Enterprises are to upload the test result of that Worker onto SRS <u>no later than 12 hours</u> after the ESSS for that specific Worker is completed;
  - (2) if the test result is "AG-", Enterprises are to upload the test result of that Worker **no later than 24 hours** after the ESSS for that specific Worker is completed; and
  - (3) the requirements set out under paragraphs 4 to 6 of **Annex B**.
- 20. Enterprises with existing SRS accounts can continue to use their accounts to upload the ART results. For enterprises who do not have a SRS account, please register for FET and the creation of an SRS account at <a href="https://go.gov.sg/fet-registration-food">https://go.gov.sg/fet-registration-food</a>. More details on how enterprises can register for an SRS account can also be found at <a href="https://www.enterprisesg.gov.sg/sector-testing">www.enterprisesg.gov.sg/sector-testing</a>.

Annex A: Recognised Proofs of Vaccination

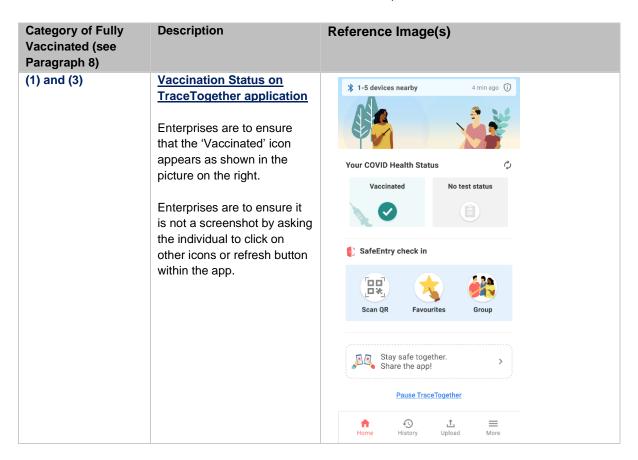
Annex B: ART Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> This can be done in person or virtually.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Used test kits should be double-bagged and tied before disposing them in closed bins (e.g. pedal bins).

# **Recognised Proofs of Vaccination**

Enterprises can establish how many workers are Fully Vaccinated by checking their vaccination status using the most updated methods as set out on <a href="https://go.gov.sg/acceptabledocs">https://go.gov.sg/acceptabledocs</a> (refer to the "For fully vaccinated individuals" and "For individuals who have recovered from COVID-19" sections).



#### Reference Image(s) **Category of Fully** Description Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8) (1) and (3) Vaccination Status on **HealthHub application Vaccination Records** Enterprises are to ensure that the 'Vaccinated' icon as shown in the picture on the right. Enterprises are to ensure it is not a screenshot by asking Vaccinated the individual to click on other icons within the app. Effective starting 14 Jun 2021 COVID-19 PFIZER-BIONTECH/ **COMIRNATY (A-COV)** 31 MAY 2021 RAFFLES MEDICAL VACCINATION CENTRE -TECK GHEE CC RAFFLES MEDICAL VACCINATION CENTRE -TECK GHEE CC View more > (1) and (3) **Physical Vaccination** Card/Slip COVID-19 VACCINATION CARD Information about COVID-19 Vaccination The COVID-19 vaccine you have received consists of two doses. The second dose must be completed to achieve the best possible protection, and for the protection to be as long-lasting as possible. MINISTRY OF HEALTH Enterprises are to only accept original the hardcopy card/slip. COVID-19 VACCINATION CARD The vaccine has been assessed to be safe for use. However, just like other vaccines, you may experience some side effects such as headache, body aches, tiredness and soreness at the injection site, or fever. These usually get better after 1-3 days and may be a sign that your immune system is making a protective response against COVID-19. PERSONAL PARTICULARS Enterprises are to ensure that the card/slip belongs to the individual by checking against the his/her Government-issued photo identification. Enterprises are to ensure that more than 2 weeks have passed since the final dose of the vaccine (e.g. if your final dose was on 1 July 2021 (Day 1), you would be considered to be fully vaccinated from 15 July 2021 (Day 15)). Note. Hard-copy and digital overseas vaccination certs are not recognised.

#### Category of Fully Description Reference Image(s) Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8) **Discharge Memo** (2) MINISTRY OF HEALTH Enterprises are to only accept the original hardcopy memo. DISCHARGE MEMO Name of Patient: Enterprises are to ensure that NRIC/FIN: the memo belongs to the individual by checking To whom it may concern, his/ her against the The abovementioned patient first tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) via a PCR test on \_\_\_\_\_ and was isolated under the Infectious Diseases Act. The abovementioned patient was discharged on \_\_\_\_\_. Government-issued photo identification. The abovementioned patient has since completed the necessary period of isolation for the treatment of COVID-19 and is **no longer infectious**. He is exempted from Pre-Event Testing until <date> To ensure that the duration of [Please indicate N.A if not applicable] The abovementioned patient has also been given a leave of absence<sup>1</sup> to rest and the activity is within the 270 recover at his/her place of residence until days exemption period calculated from the date of the 1st PCR test. For any queries, please contact the MOH Emergency Line at 1800 333 9999 or email to moh qsm@moh.gov.sg. Older versions of memo that do not indicate the exemption DR DERRICK HENG DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES period or the date of the PCR PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP positive test result will not be accepted. (2) e-Discharge Memo Government agencies communicate via .gov.sg websites The unique link to the e-Discharge Memo will be sent via SMS. **DISCHARGE MEMO** Ensure it is not a screenshot Name of Patient: by asking the individual to click on other links within the NRIC/FIN: memo. Dear Sir/Mdm. Enterprises are to ensure that This memo indicates that you are discharged from your the duration of the activity is Isolation Order as of 12pm on \_\_\_\_\_ \_ . After your discharge, you are deemed no longer infectious. the 270 exemption period. You are exempted from pre-event testing (PET) for 270 days after your positive test result until\_\_\_\_ \_\_ and are allowed to enter premises and venues (that are subjected to PET entry checks) without any further PCR or ART tests (https://go.gov.sg/vdsmminfo) similar to that for vaccinated individuals. You may also use your Isolation Order SMS with your end date as proof of discharge. For more information, you may wish to visit covid.gov.sg. If you have further questions, contact the MOH COVID-19 General Enquiries Hotline at 1800 333 9999, or email moh\_qsm@moh.gov.sg Thank you. PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP MINISTRY OF HEALTH

| Category of Fully<br>Vaccinated (see<br>Paragraph 8) | Description  | Reference Image(s)  |
|--|--|---|
| (2)  | Enterprises are to only accept the original hardcopy memo.  Enterprises are to ensure that the memo belongs to the individual by checking against the his/ her Government-issued photo identification. | PRE-EVENT TESTING (PET) EXEMPTION NOTICE  Full Name: (as per NRIC/FIN/Passport)  NRIC/FIN/Passport Number: XXXXX567A  Country of Passport Issue (only for foreigners without FiN):  To whom it may concern,  This is to certify that the abovementioned first tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) via a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test* on %date>. He/She is exempted from Pre-Event Testing (PET) till %date> (inclusive).  2. For further details, please contact [Name of Clinic (and Branch if applicable), email, phone number].  Thank you.  Stamp/ Signature/Date  Name:  Designation: Clinic Name (and Branch if applicable):  * Recovered travellers/ returning SCa/PRs with overseas PCR+ results with local S+ result must provide GP with proof of overseas PCR+ results of the PET Exemption Notice. |

## **ART Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS**

- 1. ART test kits will return one of three possible test results:
  - (1) negative or "AG-";
  - (2) positive or "AG+"; or
  - (3) invalid or "AG Invalid".
- 2. Workers that obtain an "**AG Invalid**" test result are required to immediately undergo a follow-up ART until they obtain an '**AG+**' or '**AG-**' test result. Both the first "**AG Invalid**" result and the follow-up test results must be submitted on SRS.
- 3. If a Worker undergoes ART at a QTC, they will receive an SMS stating their test result within 1-2 hours. Alternatively, the test results of these Workers can also be found on their TraceTogether or HealthHub phone applications.
- 4. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS, <u>Image 1</u> below illustrates how the different test results will be shown on the Abbott Panbio and SD Bio Sensor ART test kits (which are the ART test kits that is distributed to Enterprises for MIWs). Please note that the lines on the test kit cassette will appear in 15 20 minutes ("**Checking Window**") after the specimen buffer has been added to the test well. Enterprises shall only upload the test results that are shown on the test kit cassette <u>during</u> the Checking Window onto SRS.

Image 1: Test results on the Abbott Panbio and SD Bio Sensor ART test kit

| Negative Test Result     | Positive Test Result                         | Invalid Test Result                     |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| ('AG-')                  | ('AG+')                                      | ('AG Invalid')                          |
| C T                      | СТ   | C T                                     |
| Bold marking at 'C'      | <u>Bold</u> marking at 'C'                   | <u>No</u> marking at 'C'                |
| and                      | and  | and                                     |
| <u>No</u> marking at 'T' | <u>Bold</u> marking at 'T'                   | <u>Bold</u> marking at 'T'              |
|                          | Bold marking at 'C' and Faint marking at 'T' | No marking at 'C' and No marking at 'T' |

- 5. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS and uses an ART test kit other than the SD Bio Sensor and Abbott Panbio ART test kit, Enterprises are to refer to the manufacturer's instructions on how to interpret the test results obtained by their Workers and only upload the test results that are obtained pursuant to these instructions onto SRS.
- 6. **[Updated as of 1 November 2021]** If the Enterprise had incorrectly submitted a "AG-/AG+" result for a Worker on SRS, Enterprises are to email to <a href="mailto:AskSRS@hpb.gov.sg">AskSRS@hpb.gov.sg</a> with the information below:
  - a. NRIC
  - b. Name
  - c. Date of VoRT test affected by erroneous result
  - d. Company/ Employer for VoRT
  - e. Company/ Employer's email address
  - f. Final result to be displayed (AG+ or AG-)
- 7. Enterprises are strongly recommended to guide Workers that obtain "AG+" test results from ESSS to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>.