

4 October 2021

Dear Student Care Operators,

**Transition Towards COVID Resilience: Enhanced COVID-19 Testing Regime in Student Care Centres (SCCs)**

We had earlier informed SCCs that from 1 October 2021, all staff working in SCCs must undergo the COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test (ART) on a regular basis under the Fast and Easy Test (FET) and “Vaccinate or Regular Test” (VoRT) regimes. **School-based SCCs are to refer to the advisories issued by MOE and/or school administration for more details.** These ART tests will be administered through Employer Supervised Self-Swab (ESSS), which involves these staff using ART kits to administer swabs on themselves under the supervision of a trained supervisor.

Staff	Frequency of ART
<b>All vaccinated<sup>1</sup> staff</b> (including vaccinated cleaners)	Once a week (i.e. 7-day cycle)
<b>All unvaccinated staff</b> (including unvaccinated cleaners and medically ineligible)	Twice a week

**Fast and Easy (FET) Regime**

2. MOH requires enterprises under the FET regime to ensure that their employees<sup>2</sup> and persons who work under their direction<sup>3</sup> undergo regular FET without fail. It is also mandatory for MSF (as the sector lead for student care sector) to undertake audits to make certain the FET regime is implemented as required.

3. Under the FET regime, SCCs are required to ensure that their employees and persons who work under their direction (e.g. contractors, subcontractors and volunteers) undergo regular FET using the ART, regardless of their vaccination status. MSF, as the sector lead, will commence audits on the FET regime for community-based SCCs from **1 October onwards**. *[Your respective Student Care Officers will contact you with further details]*. Some centres have received the one-month supply of ART kits. MSF is working closely with the

<sup>1</sup> For the purpose of the testing regime, the individual is considered vaccinated if he has (i) received the appropriate regimen of any approved vaccine and an additional 14 days or more have elapsed after the day the individual was so vaccinated. The vaccines 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; or (ii) recovered from COVID-19 based on a positive Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result obtained in Singapore and has taken one dose of Pfizer-BioNTech/Comirnaty or Moderna, with an additional 2 weeks for the vaccine to be effective; or (iii) recovered from COVID-19 i.e. less than 270 days of first positive PCR test result obtained in Singapore.

<sup>2</sup> This includes both full and part time employees, as well as interns

<sup>3</sup> This includes contractors (e.g. cleaners, supplementary programme providers, bus drivers), subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace. Volunteers are also included.

vendors to deliver ART kits to the remaining Student Care Centres. Centres which have not received the ART kits may start the testing regime the **next working day after receiving the kits**.

4. Please note that all SCCs must comply with the mandatory requirements set out in the attached **FET Notice** (see **Annex A**).

5. To support SCCs, the costs for the ART test kits that will be used for ESSS and the training required for ESSS will be borne by the Government until 31 December 2021.

### **“Vaccinate or Regular Test” (VoRT) Regime**

6. To expand our vaccine coverage further and to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19, all settings with children 12 years and below are required to implement the Vaccinate or Regular Test (“VoRT”) regime with effect from 1 October 2021.

7. Under the VoRT regime, SCCs must ensure that all their employees<sup>4</sup> and persons who work under their direction<sup>5</sup> (e.g. contractors, subcontractors and volunteers) are “Fully Vaccinated” or undergo COVID-19 testing twice a week if they are not.

8. Please refer to the attached **VoRT Notice** (see **Annex B**) for more details on the obligations of SCCs that are required to implement the VoRT regime.

9. To support SCCs, the Government will bear the costs of training required by supervisors through 31 December 2021.

10. The Government will also give further support for SCCs that conduct ESSS by providing ART test kits for persons who have been certified by a medical practitioner in Singapore as medically ineligible to receive mRNA COVID-19 vaccines and are still required to undergo testing twice a week under the VoRT regime (“Medically Ineligible Worker(s)” or “MIW(s)”). SCCs should verify a person’s status as a MIW by checking against the original certification or memo that was issued to that person by a medical practitioner in Singapore or the SMS notification sent to that person. The Government’s provision of ART test kits for these MIWs will continue through 31 December 2021. For avoidance of doubt, all other persons who are not Fully Vaccinated are ineligible for these Government-provided ART test kits, and SCCs should make arrangements to comply with the requirements set out in the VoRT Notice.

11. The costs for the services and ART test kits that will be used at the Quick Test Centres will also be borne by the Government for MIWs through 31 December 2021.

### **Approach for AG+ cases**

12. Any revised guidelines for handling AG+ cases among staff for SCCs will be circulated separately when it is available.

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<sup>4</sup> This includes both full and part time employees, as well as interns

<sup>5</sup> This includes contractors (e.g. cleaners, supplementary programme providers, bus drivers), subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace. Volunteers are also included.

13. To place an order for ART test kits, SCCs should submit the relevant information to respective MSF Coordinators. SCCs that carry out their businesses across multiple programmes or services should submit a separate order for each premise<sup>6</sup>.

14. The FET and VoRT regimes and the mandatory requirements set out in the attached notices are imposed on SCCs 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.**

15. Do note that SCCs must not distribute, supply or sell the ART test kits provided by the Government to any third party.

16. Please refer to **Annex C** for FAQs related to the FET and VoRT regimes.

### **Support from SCCs**

17. The fight against COVID-19 requires the collective effort of everyone in the community. We seek the support and understanding of all SCCs during this period. We will continue to review and adjust the measures in line with the national posture for the health and well-being of the public and employees.

18. We thank you for your continued support to keep our SCCs safe for the staff, children and their families. For more details on the enhanced testing regimes, please contact your MSF Coordinators. School-based SCCs are to refer to the advisories issued by MOE and/or school administration for more details.

Yours faithfully

Denise Low (Ms)  
Director  
Service Delivery and Coordination Division (SDCD)  
Ministry of Social and Family Development

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<sup>6</sup> For SCCs with multiple centres or facilities under the same UEN, you may submit your request to create multiple SRS company accounts under the same UEN. However, there must be a unique mobile number and email address used for each account. SCCs without a UEN can indicate their NRIC in the UEN field instead.



30 Sept 2021

Dear Enterprises

## **[UPDATED AS OF 30 SEPT 2021] FAST AND EASY TESTING FOR THE SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR**

1. Since late-June 2021, the Fast and Easy Testing (“FET”) regime has been progressively rolled out for all higher risk sectors, including the Social Services sector. **With effect from 15 July 2021 onwards, all specified enterprises (see Annex A) in the Social Services sector (“Enterprises”) must comply with the mandatory requirements set out in this updated 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 FET regime is to further reduce the risk of transmission of COVID19 in settings with unmasked clients, or where services are performed under prolonged and close contact with clients, or where there are frequent interactions with the community. Under the FET regime, enterprises are required to ensure that their employees and persons who work under their direction (e.g. Contractors and Volunteers) undergo regular FET using the COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test (“ART”), regardless of their vaccination status. Self-employed persons working in these settings should also ensure that they adhere to the FET regime.
3. The FET 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<sup>7</sup>. Checks will be conducted by enforcement teams to verify if Enterprises have complied with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice.

### **FET Requirements for Enterprises**

4. **[Mandatory]** All Enterprises, except for residential homes serving elderly residents, must ensure that their employees<sup>8</sup> and persons who work under their direction or at their premises<sup>9</sup> (collectively, “Workers”) undergo FET once every 7 days (the “FET

<sup>7</sup> Enterprises are reminded to comply with the other requirements imposed under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 and implement the Safe Management Measures (“SMMs”) as set out on the COVID Gobusiness website. They are also reminded to comply with the relevant SMMs 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), Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) and Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF).

<sup>8</sup> This includes both full and part time employees, as well as interns.

<sup>9</sup> This includes contractors (e.g. cleaners), subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace. Volunteers are also included. (See Q8 and Q9 in FAQ for FET and VoRT for more details of persons placed under these categories)

**Requirement**)<sup>1011</sup>. Staff in residential homes serving elderly residents will undergo FET twice a week for a period of four weeks from 17 Sep 2021, and revert to undergo FET once every 7 days thereafter.

**[Mandatory]** After their Workers undergo FET, Enterprises shall verify<sup>12</sup> the worker's test results.

5. 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 <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>,
6. To meet the FET Requirement, Enterprises are encouraged to conduct **EmployerSupervised Self-Swab ("ESSS")** for their Workers. Details on how to conduct ESSS are set out in paragraphs 7 to 14 below. The costs for the ART test kits that will be used for ESSS and the training required for Enterprises that wish to conduct ESSS will be borne by the Government until 31 December 2021.

### Requirements for Enterprises conducting ESSS

7. ESSS involves Workers using an ART kit and performing a swab on themselves under the supervision of a trained supervisor ("**Supervisor**"). The swabbing and supervision can be done either at the workplace or virtually using tools such as video conferencing.
8. **[Mandatory]** To satisfy the FET Requirement, Enterprises conducting ESSS for their Workers shall:
  - (1) appointed an adequate number of Supervisors to supervise every Worker whenever they carry out the swabs on themselves;
  - (2) ensure that Supervisor has satisfied the training requirements set out under paragraph 9 below and properly performs his supervisory role<sup>13</sup>;
  - (3) ensure that workers comply with the steps set out in paragraph 12 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 13 below; and
  - (5) ensure that the ART test kits used for ESSS are those that are set out on the

<sup>10</sup> See Q1-Q5 in FAQ for FET and VoRT for more details for implementing FET every 7 days

<sup>11</sup> See Q7 in FAQ for FET and VoRT for conditions for exemption from ART

<sup>12</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. <sup>7</sup> This includes wearing adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting supervision.

<sup>13</sup> This includes wearing adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting supervision.

Health Sciences Authority's website, at  
[https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumersafety/articles/covid19\\_ARTselftests](https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumersafety/articles/covid19_ARTselftests)

- 9a. Where the 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 <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>. The follow-up ART test(s) does not need to be carried out under supervision and the results do not need to be uploaded to SRS. Enterprises are to use self-sourced ART test kits for the follow-up ART test(s) and not those that have been supplied by the Government under the FET regime.

#### *Training for Supervisors*

9. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises conducting ESSS shall ensure that their Supervisors have attended the 4-hour virtual Supervisory Training in ART Self-Swab that is conducted by the Ministry of Health's ("MOH") appointed training provider, HMI Institute of Health Sciences Pte. Ltd. ("HMI") before they perform their supervisory role. If a Supervisor is above 50-years-old, Enterprises must ensure that he or she is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (i.e. they received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination under Singapore's national vaccination programme or any other vaccine regimen as approved by the Ministry of Health (MOH)<sup>14</sup> and 14 days have passed from the time of the second dose<sup>15</sup>) before they can perform any supervisory role.
10. Enterprises conducting ESSS are advised to nominate at least two Workers per facility to undergo training to be a Supervisor. The training provided by HMI will equip Supervisors with the knowledge needed to supervise the conduct ESSS and a certificate of attendance will be issued to those who have completed it. The training provided by HMI is carried out daily from (a) 8am to 12pm, (b) 2pm to 6pm and (c) 6pm to 10pm on a first-come-first-served basis. Enterprises are advised to book their training slot directly with HMI at <https://hmi-ihs.com/supervisory-training-in-art-self-swab/> and to do so as soon as possible.
11. Upon successful booking, HMI will send a web link for supervisors 1-2 days before the actual training day, to attend the virtual training session. Please visit HMI's website at <https://hmi-ihs.com> (refer to "COVID-19 Training") for latest details on the ESSS training.

#### *Conduct of ESSS by Workers*

12. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises are required to ensure that their Workers shall:
- (1) be supervised<sup>16</sup> by a Supervisor whenever they carry out ESSS;
  - (2) use new ART test kits whenever they carry out ESSS; and

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> Enterprises can consider asking Supervisors to verify their vaccination status via TraceTogether.

<sup>16</sup> This can be done in person or virtually.

- (3) properly dispose of used ART test kits after they have carried out ESSS<sup>17</sup>.

#### *Uploading of Test Results onto SRS*

13. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises are required to upload the test results obtained by their Workers from ESSS onto SRS<sup>18</sup> in accordance with the following:
  - (1) if the test result is “AG+”, Enterprises are to upload the test result of that Worker onto SRS **no later than 30 minutes** 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 and 6 of **Annex B**.
14. For more details on how enterprises can register for an SRS account, kindly contact your MSF Coordinators. More details on the registration for an SRS account can be found in paragraph 16 below.

#### **Support for Enterprises conducting ESSS**

15. The Government will be supplying ART test kits to Enterprises until **31 December 2021**. To place an order for the ART test kits, Enterprises are required to submit the relevant information to your respective service/programme coordinators in MSF/SGE. The ART test kits will be delivered to Enterprises. **Enterprises shall only use the ART test kits that are supplied by the Government for ESSS and shall not distribute, supply or sell them to any third-party.** ART Test Kits must be used with prudence and companies need to ensure that one employee only use one test kit for one cycle of RRT, unless the test result is AG invalid.
16. The information submitted will also be used by the relevant Government agencies to help Enterprises set up an SRS account. Once the SRS account has been set up, your POC will receive an email notification informing them about the creation of the SRS account and how to upload test results onto it.

#### **Support from Enterprises**

17. The fight against COVID-19 requires the collective effort of everyone in the community. We seek the support and understanding of all Enterprises during this period. We will continue to review and adjust the measures in line with the national posture for the health and well-being of the public and employees.

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<sup>17</sup> Used test kits should be double-bagged and tied before disposing them in closed bins (e.g. pedal bins).

<sup>18</sup> Details on how to register for an SRS account can be found at paragraph 16.



18. For more details on the FET regime, please contact your service/programme coordinators in MSF/SGE for further clarifications.

## **Annexes**

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Annex A	List of Enterprises in the Social Services Sector for which this Notice applies
Annex B	FET Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS

**ANNEX A**

**List of Enterprises in the Social Services Sector for which this Notice applies**

“Enterprises” used in this Notice refers to:






- Welfare Homes\*
- Sheltered Homes\*
- Adult Disability Homes\*
- Disability Hostels\*
- Children and Young Persons Homes
- Children’s Disability Homes
- Crisis Shelters
- Transitional Shelters\*
- Senior Group Homes\*
- Community Group Homes\*
- Day Activity Centres
- Sheltered Workshops
- Early Intervention (EI) Centres
- Community-based Student Care Centres
- Special Student Care Centres
- Drop-in Disability Programme
- Community Based Integrated Support, and
- Transit Point@Margaret Drive\*

\*Residential Homes serving elderly residents

**ANNEX B****FET Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS**

1. Workers will be required to undergo ART to satisfy the FET Requirement. 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.
3. If a Worker undergoes ART at a QTC, they will receive an SMS stating the test result that they have obtained. 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, [Image 1](#) below illustrates how the different test results will be shown on the Abbott Panbio and SD Bio Sensor ART test kit (which will be the ART test kit distributed to Enterprises). 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 **during** the Checking Window onto SRS.

*Image 1: Test results on SD Bio Sensor*

Negative Test Result (‘AG-’)	Positive Test Result (‘AG+’)	Invalid Test Result (‘AG Invalid’)
 <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>No</u> marking at ‘T’</p>	 <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Bold</u> marking at ‘T’</p>	 <p><u>No</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Bold</u> marking at ‘T’</p>
	 <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Faint</u> marking at ‘T’</p>	 <p><u>No</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>No</u> marking at ‘T’</p>

5. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS and uses an ART kit other than the Abbott Panbio and SD Bio Sensor 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. If the Enterprise had wrongly submitted a “AG+” result for a Worker on SRS, Enterprises must use this form to submit the details and updated result of the Worker - <https://go.gov.sg/artpositivenoncompliance>
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 <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>

30 September 2021

## **(UPDATED AS OF 30 SEPT 2021) VACCINATE OR REGULAR TEST REGIME FOR SOCIAL SERVICES SECTOR**

1. **With effect from 1 October 2021, all enterprises in the Social Services sector<sup>1</sup> (“Enterprises”), are required to implement the Vaccinate or Regular Test (“VoRT”) regime. All 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 all their employees and persons who work under their direction (e.g. contractors and subcontractors, as well as volunteers), including those in non-public facing roles, 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.

### **VoRT Requirements for Enterprises**

5. **[Mandatory]** All Enterprises must ensure that all their employees<sup>2</sup> and persons who work under their direction or at their premises<sup>3</sup> (collectively, “**Workers**”) 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**”) <sup>4</sup> twice a week (“**VoRT Requirement**”) and on separate days within that week. For the avoidance of

<sup>1</sup> Enterprises include Residential Homes serving elderly residents, Residential Homes serving Non-elderly, Care services for children, Community-based Disability Services and social services in the eldercare sector and/or serving children 12 years old and below (See Annex A).

<sup>2</sup> This includes both full and part time employees, as well as interns.

<sup>3</sup> This includes contractors, subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace (e.g. cleaners) and volunteers.

<sup>4</sup> The ART test **must** 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.

doubt, if an Enterprise consists of only one self-employed person, he or she has to comply with the VoRT Requirement as well.

6. Enterprises should 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 a 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 Table 1 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 history of COVID-19 infection	(a) Individual must not have had a history of COVID-19 infection; (b) Individual must have been vaccinated against a COVID-19 infection by the administration of the appropriate regimen of any approved vaccine <sup>5</sup> ; and (c) 14 days or more have elapsed after the day the individual was so vaccinated.	Starting 14 days after the day the individual was so vaccinated and ending 365 days later.
(2) Recovered from COVID19 infection without prior vaccination	(a) Individual must not have been vaccinated against COVID-19 infection; and (b) Individual must have recovered from COVID19 infection.	Starting the day the individual first tested positive for SARSCoV-2 via a PCR test and ending 270 days later.

<sup>5</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) SinovacCoronaVac 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.

	(a) Individual must not have been vaccinated against COVID-19 infection; and (b) Individual must have recovered from COVID-19 infection; and (c) 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 from COVID19 infection and subsequently vaccinated	(a) Individual must have recovered from COVID-19 infection (b) Individual must have been vaccinated against a COVID-19 infection by the administration of one dose of any approved vaccine <sup>6</sup> ; and 14 days or more have elapsed after the day the individual was so vaccinated. (c)	Starting 14 days after the day the individual was so vaccinated and ending 365 days 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 B**; and
  - (2) regard Workers who decline or are unable to produce the proofs of vaccination as set out in **Annex B** 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>7</sup> the worker's PCR/ART test results.
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 <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>.
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. Details on how to conduct ESSS are set out in paragraphs 14 to 20 below.
13. For small businesses and freelancers who are not able to organise their own ESSS, they may work with their appointed Sector Lead to go to the Quick Test Centres ("QTC(s)") for their tests

### 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 trained supervisor ("**Supervisor**"). The swabbing and supervision

<sup>6</sup> Please refer to footnote S/N. 6.

<sup>7</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.

can be done either at the workplace or virtually using digital tools such as video conferencing.

15. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises conducting ESSS for their Workers:

- (1) appoint an adequate number of Supervisors to supervise every Worker whenever they carry out the swabs on themselves;
- (2) ensure that the Supervisor has satisfied the training requirements set out under paragraph 16 below and properly performs his supervisory role<sup>8</sup>;
- (3) ensure that workers comply with the steps set out in paragraph 19 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 20 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 [https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumersafety/articles/covid19\\_ARTselftests](https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumersafety/articles/covid19_ARTselftests)

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 <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>.

*Training for Supervisors*

16. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises conducting ESSS shall ensure that their Supervisors have attended the 4-hour virtual Supervisory Training in ART Self-Swab that is conducted by MOH’s appointed training provider, HMI Institute of Health Sciences Pte. Ltd. (“**HMI**”) before they perform their supervisory role. If a Supervisor is above 50 years old, Enterprises must ensure that he or she is Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19<sup>9</sup> (refer to paragraph 8 for the definition of Fully Vaccinated) before they can perform any supervisory role.
17. Enterprises conducting ESSS are advised to nominate at least two Workers per outlet to undergo training to be a Supervisor. The training provided by HMI will equip Supervisors with the knowledge needed to supervise the conduct ESSS and a certificate of attendance will be issued to those who have completed it. The training provided by HMI is carried out daily from (a) 8am to 12pm, (b) 2pm to 6pm and (c) 6pm to 10pm on a first-come-first-served basis. Enterprises are advised to book their training slot directly with HMI at [VirtualCampus \(wizlearn.com\)](https://www.wizlearn.com) as soon as possible.

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<sup>8</sup> This includes wearing adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting supervision.

<sup>9</sup> Enterprises can consider asking Supervisors to verify their vaccination status via TraceTogether.



18. Upon successful registration and confirmation of the course, HMI will send an email notification with the web link for supervisors to attend the virtual training session. Please visit HMI's website at <https://hmi-ihs.com/supervisory-training-in-art-self-swab/> for latest details on the ESSS training.

*Conduct of ESSS by Workers*

19. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises are required to ensure that their Workers shall:

- (1) be supervised<sup>10</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>11</sup>.

- 19A. 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 <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>.

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

20. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises are required to upload the test results obtained by their Workers from ESSS onto SRS in accordance with the following:

- (1) if the test result is "AG+", Enterprises are to upload the test result of that Worker onto SRS **no later than 30 minutes** 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 C**.

21. For more details on how enterprises can register for an SRS account, kindly contact your MSF Coordinators.

Annex A: Enterprises in MSF Social Service under VoRT regime

Annex B: Recognised Proofs of Vaccination

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

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<sup>10</sup> This can be done in person or virtually.

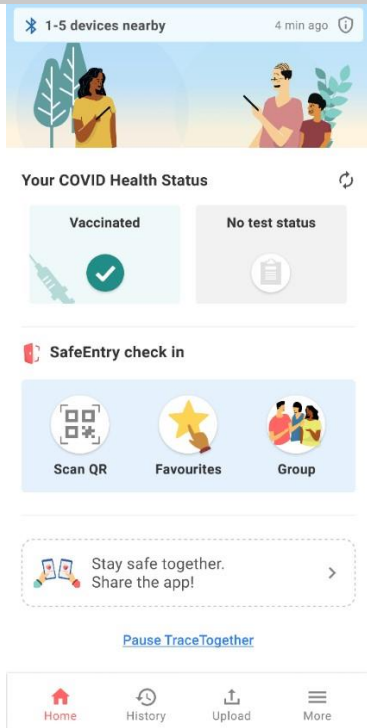
<sup>11</sup> Used test kits should be double-bagged and tied before disposing them in closed bins (e.g. pedal bins).




**Annex A Enterprises in MSF Social Service**

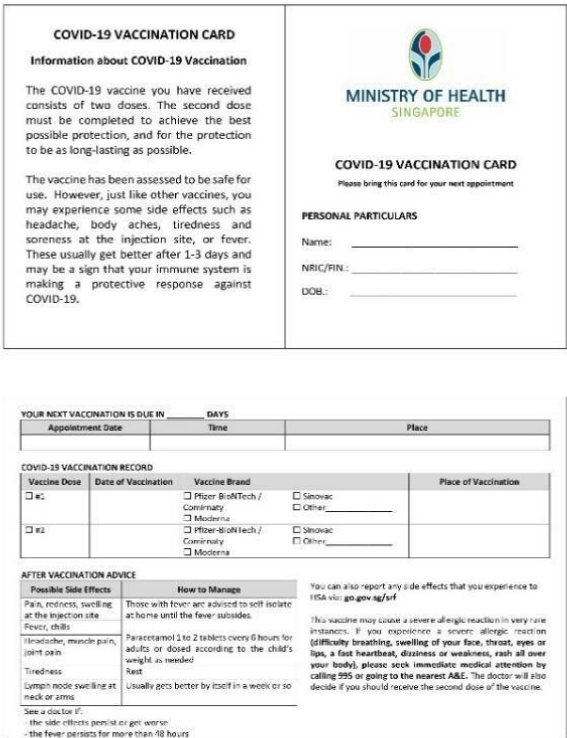
	<b>Type of Service</b>	<b>Programmes</b>
1	Residential Homes serving elderly residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welfare Homes</li> <li>• Sheltered Homes</li> <li>• Adult Disability Homes</li> <li>• Transitional Shelters</li> <li>• Senior Group Homes</li> <li>• Community Homes</li> <li>• Disability Hostels</li> <li>• Safe Sound Sleeping Places</li> </ul>
2	Residential Homes serving non-elderly residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children and Young Persons' Homes</li> <li>• Singapore Boys' Home</li> <li>• Singapore Girls' Home</li> <li>• Children Disability Homes</li> <li>• Crisis Shelters</li> </ul>
3	Care Services for Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Intervention (EI) Centres</li> <li>• Community-based Student Care Centres (SCCs)</li> </ul>
4	Community-based Disability Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Day Activity Centres</li> <li>• Drop-in Disability Programme</li> <li>• Therapy Hub</li> <li>• Sheltered Workshops</li> <li>• Community-based integration support</li> <li>• Special Student Care Centres</li> </ul>
5	Social Services in the eldercare sector and/or serving children 12 years old and below e.g. case interviews, counselling sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Family Service Centres</li> <li>• Family Violence Specialist Centres</li> <li>• Child Protection Specialist Centres</li> <li>• Integrated Services for Individual and Family Protection Specialist Centre</li> <li>• Mandatory Counselling Centres</li> <li>• Divorce Support Specialist Agencies</li> <li>• Integrated Service Providers</li> <li>• Fostering Agencies</li> <li>• HOPE Mentoring Agencies</li> <li>• Safe and Strong Families Agencies</li> <li>• Pre-Family Guidance Order Service Agencies</li> <li>• Family Guidance Order Service Agencies providing residential services</li> <li>• Access Agencies</li> </ul>
6	Services providing frontline services with direct interaction with seniors or children 12 years old and below	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parenting Support Programme (if serving grandparents)</li> <li>• Early Risk Marriage Programme (if serving children 12 years old and below)</li> </ul>
7	Others	Organisations running services similar to above, but are not listed, are to contact MSF on their obligations under the VoRT regime

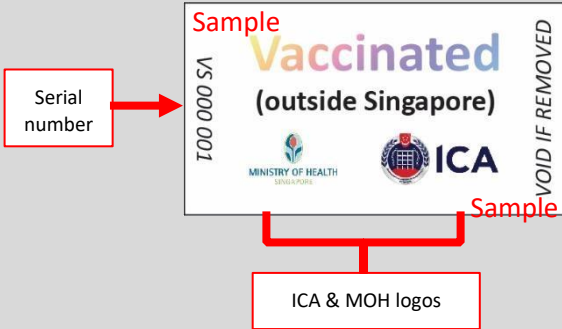
**ANNEX B****Recognised Proofs of Vaccination**

Enterprises can establish how many workers are Fully Vaccinated by checking their vaccination status using the methods as set out on <https://go.gov.sg/acceptabledocs> (refer to the “For fully vaccinated individuals” and “For individuals who have recovered from COVID19” sections).

Category of Fully Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
(1) and (3)	<p><u><b>Vaccination Status on TraceTogether application</b></u></p> <p>Enterprises are to ensure that the ‘Vaccinated’ icon appears as shown in the picture on the right.</p> <p>Enterprises are to ensure it is not a screenshot by asking the individual to click on other icons or refresh button within the app.</p>	 <p>The screenshot shows the TraceTogether app interface. At the top, it says '1-5 devices nearby' and '4 min ago'. Below this is an illustration of three people. The main section is titled 'Your COVID Health Status' and shows two buttons: 'Vaccinated' (with a green checkmark and a syringe icon) and 'No test status' (with a grey document icon). Below this is a 'SafeEntry check in' section with three icons: 'Scan QR', 'Favourites', and 'Group'. At the bottom, there is a 'Stay safe together. Share the app!' message with a right arrow, a 'Pause TraceTogether' link, and a bottom navigation bar with 'Home', 'History', 'Upload', and 'More' icons.</p>

Category of Full Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
(1) and (3)	<p><u><a href="#">Vaccination Status on HealthHub application</a></u></p> <p>Enterprises are to ensure that the 'Vaccinated' icon as shown in the picture on the right.</p> <p>Enterprises are to ensure it is not a screenshot by asking the individual to click on other icons within the app.</p>	 <p><b>Vaccination Records</b></p> <p> <b>Vaccinated</b> Effective starting 14 Jun 2021</p> <hr/> <p><b>COVID-19 PFIZER-BIONTECH/COMIRNATY (A-COV)</b></p> <p><b>31 MAY 2021</b> RAFFLES MEDICAL VACCINATION CENTRE - TECK GHEE CC</p> <p><b>10 MAY 2021</b> RAFFLES MEDICAL VACCINATION CENTRE - TECK GHEE CC</p> <p><a href="#">View more</a> &gt;</p> <p> <a href="#">Download PDF</a></p>

(1) and (3)	<p><b>Physical Vaccination Card/Slip</b></p> <p>Enterprises are to only accept the original hardcopy card/slip.</p> <p>Enterprises are to ensure that the card/slip belongs to the individual by checking against the his/her Government-issued photo identification.</p> <p>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)).</p> <p><i>Note. Hard-copy and digital overseas vaccination certs are not recognised.</i></p>	 <p>The image shows a COVID-19 Vaccination Card and a corresponding record form. The card includes information about the vaccine, personal particulars (Name, NRIC/PIN, DOB), and a section for the next vaccination due date. The record form includes a table for recording vaccine doses (Vaccine Dose, Date of Vaccination, Vaccine Brand, Place of Vaccination) and a section for after vaccination advice (Possible Side Effects, How to Manage, and a note about severe allergic reactions).</p>
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Category of Fully Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
(1) and (3)	<p><b>Vaccination Sticker</b></p> <p>Enterprise may refer to the tamper-proof vaccination sticker to be affixed onto the passport of employees who were fully vaccinated overseas with a World Health Organisation Emergency Use Listing (WHO-EUL) vaccine.</p> <p>Please note that the validity of the sticker is until the end of their Short-Term Visitor Pass validity or until 30 September 2021, whichever is earlier. After which, employers may refer to the TraceTogether application to verify vaccination status.</p>	 <p>The image shows a sample vaccination sticker. It features the text 'Sample Vaccinated (outside Singapore)' and 'VOID IF REMOVED'. It also includes the logos of the Ministry of Health Singapore and ICA. A red arrow points to the 'Serial number' field, which contains the number '100 000 001'. A red bracket indicates the 'ICA &amp; MOH logos'.</p>

(2)

Discharge Memo

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.

To ensure that the duration of the activity is within the 270 days exemption period calculated from the date of the 1<sup>st</sup> PCR test.

Older versions of memo that do not indicate the exemption period or the date of the PCR positive test result will not be accepted.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH  
SINGAPORE

**DISCHARGE MEMO**

Name of Patient: \_\_\_\_\_

NRIC/FIN: \_\_\_\_\_

To whom it may concern,

The above-mentioned patient first tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) via a PCR test on \_\_\_\_\_ and was isolated under the Infectious Diseases Act. The above-mentioned patient was discharged on \_\_\_\_\_.

The above-mentioned 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>.

(Please indicate N/A if not applicable)

The above-mentioned patient has also been given a leave of absence<sup>1</sup> to rest and recover at his/her place of residence until \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you.

For any queries, please contact the MOH Emergency Line at 1800 333 9999 or email to [moh\\_qsm@moh.gov.sg](mailto:moh_qsm@moh.gov.sg).

DR DERRICK HENG  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES  
PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP

<sup>1</sup> During the period of the leave of absence, you should remain in your place of accommodation/ residence so much as possible, and only leave your place of accommodation/residence for essential (e.g. food and groceries, urgent medical treatment). If you have a prior pre-existing medical appointment, you should call your healthcare provider to confirm that you are an Exempted Person, so that they can advise on whether you are exempted.

After your Status of Absence is over, you may report back to work, subject to prevailing safe distancing measures, imposed by the Government.

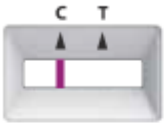


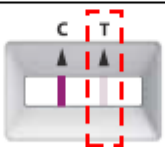
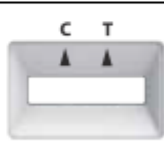
Category of Fully Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
(2)	<p><b><u>PET Exemption Notice</u></b></p> <p>Enterprises are to only accept the original hardcopy memo.</p> <p>Enterprises are to ensure that the memo belongs to the individual by checking against the his/ her Government-issued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

## ANNEX C

**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
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, Image 1 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 during the Checking Window onto SRS.

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

Negative Test Result (‘AG-’)	Positive Test Result (‘AG+’)	Invalid Test Result (‘AG Invalid’)
 <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>No</u> marking at ‘T’</p>	 <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Bold</u> marking at ‘T’</p>	 <p><u>No</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Bold</u> marking at ‘T’</p>
	 <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Faint</u> marking at ‘T’</p>	 <p><u>No</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>No</u> marking at ‘T’</p>

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. If the Enterprise had wrongly submitted a “AG+” result for a Worker on SRS, Enterprises must use this form to submit the details and updated result of the Worker - <https://go.gov.sg/artpositivenoncompliance>
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 <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>

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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR FAST-AND-EASY TESTING (FET) AND  
VACCINATE OR REGULAR TEST (VoRT)**

**For Fast-and-Easy Testing (FET)**

1. Staff who are away for a few days for off-site course/training are likely to miss the weekly 7D schedule of ART conducted at the home/facilities. Can Homes/Centres provide them with ART test-kits for them to test at their own home?

For 7D FET RRT, there is a grace of +/- 1 Day. For mandatory setting, the affected staff needs to do a supervised self-swab. They can do the test at home but will have to be supervised virtually (e.g. zoom by a supervisor).

2. Are staff on hospitalisation exempted from the 7D FET RRT, as hospitals will conduct FET when discharging patients?

Staff will need to fill in the exemption form. This will be monitored by sector lead.

3. For staff who are on MC, can Home/Centre reschedule them prior to coming back to work, or when they have reported back at work?

For 7D FET RRT, there is a grace of +/- 1 Day.

4. Should staff who are away for long leave, maternity or medical leave be subjected to FET during the period that they are away?

Those who are on long leave/long MC (1 week or more)/maternity leave will need to be subjected to FET only when they are back.

5. Can ART/PCR done elsewhere for another purpose e.g. PET, ART during hospitalisation be counted as fulfilling the twice weekly testing requirement, if it happens on the day the individual is supposed to be tested under VoRT?

Yes. It can be counted.

6. Should SSAs pay for the test kits for staff who are medically eligible, but choose not to vaccinate?

SSA can decide whether to purchase the test kits for these staff or ask the staff to purchase on their own. Govt funding should not be used for purchase of ART Kits for medically eligible.

7. Are there any circumstances whereby the staff on is excused from the 7D weekly RRT?

Conditions whereby Staff can be exempted from the FET RRT are listed below:

a) Exemption due to contraindication

- i. Nasal Surgery
- ii. Facial injury (that may affect the collection of nasal samples from the nostril)

b) Exemption due to special needs and disability

- i. Special needs such as autism
- ii. Disability such as vision loss, physical impairment

c) Exemption due to past infection from COVID-19

- i. Employees recovered from a previous COVID-19 infection less than 270 days ago

Staff is to submit the Declaration Form to Employer to seek exemption from FET-RRT. Employer is to inform their MSF/SGE Coordinators upon recipient of the form.

8. Are all contractors and volunteers required to be placed under the FET regime?

Regular contractors and regular volunteers (those who come into the facility to provide services/volunteer at least once a month) will be placed under the FET regime.

9. Which other groups are placed under the FET regime?

Caregivers who accompany clients' with high needs into classes, or taking part in classes on how to care for their clients at least once a month, will also be placed under the FET regime.

**For Vaccinate or Regular Testing (VoRT)**

1. Residential homes serving elderly residents are currently expected to increase their test frequency from once a week to twice a week currently to 15 Oct. What impact does this have on VoRT?

Residential homes serving elderly residents will only start the VoRT regime from 16 Oct, after the Twice-a-week RRT regime has ended.

2. How do you decide if a contractor/subcontractor or volunteer should be put under VoRT regime?

The individual must be a regular contractor or volunteer, i.e. someone who enters the facility at least once a month, and comes into contact with the clients or those who work with clients.

(Updated as of 30 Sept 2021)