## **ROSTERED ROUTINE TESTING (RRT) REGIME**

1. Since 2020, the RRT regime has been progressively rolled out to higher risk sectors. The RRT regime will switch from a Polymerase Chain Reaction ("PCR") RRT regime to a Fast and Easy Testing ("FET") RRT regime. Enterprises in or serving the maritime sector (Enterprises)¹ must comply with the mandatory requirements that are set out in this notice and must continue to do so concurrently with the VoRT Regime that was effective since 1 October 2021. 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 RRT regime is to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in settings where there is contact with potential COVID-19 cases, their belongings, or shared surfaces, and in settings with unmasked clients, where services are performed under prolonged and close contact with clients, or where there are frequent interactions with the community. Under the FET RRT regime, enterprises are required to ensure that their employees and persons who work under their direction (e.g contractors and subcontractors), or at their premises, undergo regular FET using Antigen Rapid Test ("ART") kits approved by the Health Sciences Authority (HSA) at the frequency indicated in Annex A. Self-employed persons working in these settings should also ensure that they adhere to the RRT regime.
- 3. The FET RRT regime 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.

#### **RRT Requirements for Enterprises**

**4.** [Mandatory] All Enterprises must ensure that all their employees<sup>2</sup> and persons who work under their direction<sup>3</sup> or at their premises that fall within the categories set out in **Annex A** (collectively, "Workers") undergo regular FET RRT at the indicated frequency. For the avoidance of doubt, if an Enterprise consists of only one self-employed person, he or she must comply with the RRT Requirement as well.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Enterprises include self employed persons and legal entities. Individuals who have recovered from a COVID-19 infection in the past 270 days are exempted from the RRT Requirement. If the infection was more than 270 days ago, they can be exempted from the RRT Requirement only if they are fully vaccinated. This includes persons who a) recovered from a COVID-19 infection and subsequently receives at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine (two doses if Sinovac or Sinopharm) that has been authorised under the Health Sciences Authority's Pandemic Special Access Route or listed on the World Health Organisation's Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) no earlier than 3 months after date of positive PCR, and b) are fully vaccinated before being infected with COVID-19 and subsequently recovering from it. Persons who received one dose of vaccine before being infected would need to receive their 2nd dose (3<sup>rd</sup> dose if Sinovac or Sinopharm) to be exempted. For individuals who are re-infected, the 270 days exemption starts from the date of the first C+ result of the re-infection.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This includes both full and part time employees.

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

4A. For Enterprises whose Workers are on a twice-weekly FET RRT regime, they should guide their Workers 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).

- 5. **[Mandatory]** After their Workers undergo FET RRT, Enterprises shall verify<sup>4</sup> the Worker's ART test result before uploading the result in the Swab Registration System ("**SRS**").
- 6. 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 the Ministry of Health's ("MOH") website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>.
- 7. To meet the FET RRT Requirement, Enterprises should conduct Employer-Supervised Self-Swab ("ESSS") for their Workers, where applicable. Details on how to conduct ESSS are set out in paragraphs 9 to 15 below. The costs for the ART test kits that will be used for ESSS will be borne by the Government until 31 December 2021. Hence, Enterprises should be prepared to fund the ESSS ART test kits from 1 January 2022 onwards as part of business costs.
- 8. For small businesses and freelancers who are not able to organise their own ESSS, they may work with the Maritime and Port Authority (MPA) to go to the Quick Test Centres ("QTC(s)") for their tests. For this group, the costs for the services and ART test kits that will be used at the QTC will also be borne by the Government until 31 December 2021. Other groups which can conduct ESSS but prefer to have their Workers undergo FET RRT at the QTCs, will need to pay for the services and test kits.

## Requirements for Enterprises conducting ESSS

- 9. 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 tools such as video conferencing.
- 10. [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) ensure that the Supervisor properly performs his supervisory role<sup>5</sup>;
  - (3) ensure that Workers comply with the steps set out in paragraph 14 below and properly perform the swabs on themselves;
  - (4) ensure that the test results obtained by Workers from ESSS are uploaded on the SRS in accordance with the requirements set out under paragraph 15 below; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</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>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> This includes wearing adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting supervision and being familiar with how ART kits are to be correctly used.

- (5) ensure that the ART 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
- 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/. The follow-up ART test under Protocol 2 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 approved by the HSA for the follow-up ART test and not those that have been supplied by the Government for the purpose of FET RRT.

### Requirements for Supervisors

- 11. [Mandatory] If a Supervisor is above 50 years old, Enterprises must ensure that he or she is Fully Vaccinated against COVID-196 (refer to Annex B for the definition of Fully Vaccinated) before he or she can perform any supervisory role.
- 12. Enterprises that are conducting ESSS are advised to nominate at least two Workers per outlet to perform the role of the Supervisor. Supervisors are no longer required to be formally trained by the HMI Institute of Health Sciences Pte. Ltd. but they should be familiar with how ART kits are to be correctly used, including the wearing of adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting in-person supervision.
- 13. This paragraph is no longer applicable.

#### Conduct of ESSS by Workers

- 14. [Mandatory] Enterprises are required to ensure that their Workers shall:
  - (1) be supervised<sup>7</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>8</sup>.
- 14A. Where Workers have obtained an "AG+" test result 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/. The follow-up ART test under Protocol 2 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 approved by the HSA for the follow-up ART test and not those that have been supplied by the Government for the purpose of FET RRT.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Enterprises can consider asking Supervisors to verify their vaccination status via TraceTogether.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This can be done in person or virtually.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Used test kits should be double-bagged and tied before disposing them in closed bins (e.g. pedal bins).

Uploading of Test Results onto SRS

- 15. **[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 12 hours 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**.
- 16. More details on how Enterprises can register for a SRS account can be found at <a href="https://go.gov.sg/7kcjrn">https://go.gov.sg/7kcjrn</a>.

## **Support for Enterprises conducting ESSS**

- 17. 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 using the form at <a href="www.go.gov.sg/mpa-esss">www.go.gov.sg/mpa-esss</a> ("Order Form"). Enterprises that carry out their businesses across multiple premises (e.g. outlets) should submit a consolidated Order Form for all their premises. The ART test kits will be delivered to Enterprises on first-come-first-served basis. <a href="Enterprises shall only use the ART test kits">Enterprises shall only use the ART test kits</a> 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 each employee only uses one test kit for one cycle of RRT, unless the test result is AG-invalid.
- 18. After submission of the Order Form, a confirmation email and SMS from a third-party vendor will be sent to your POC with the delivery date within a week.

Annex A: RRT Requirements for Enterprises

Annex B: Definition of Fully Vaccinated

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

<sup>9</sup> For enterprises with multiple outlets 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. Enterprises without a UEN can indicate their NRIC in the UEN field instead.

# **RRT Requirements for Enterprises**

Workers	FET RRT	
1. Any individual who is required to go onboard vessels <sup>10</sup> in the Port of Singapore		
2. Employees <sup>11</sup> of (i) Port Operators <sup>12</sup> ; (ii) essential contractors <sup>13</sup> of Port Operators; (iii) Pilotage Service Provider <sup>14</sup>		
Essential contractors of Port Operators staying in the Port Operators' dormitories		
4. Crew deployed on board harbour craft <sup>15</sup> , who have a shore-based residence in Singapore	3D (twice weekly)	
5. Workers at Designated Holding Facilities <sup>16</sup> , land transport drivers and launch boat operators <sup>17</sup> facilitating crew change	(twice weekly)	
6. Employees and essential contractors <sup>18</sup> of the Regional Ferry Terminal Operator <sup>19</sup> working in the protected area <sup>20</sup> within the regional ferry terminal or who will come into contact with passengers and/or baggage at the regional ferry terminal, as well as shore-based personnel <sup>21</sup> who will come into contact with passengers and/or baggage at the regional ferry terminal		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> For individuals who go onboard vessels not more than 2 times a month, if they are not already on a 3D FET RRT, they are required to take (i) an ART test within 24 hours prior to boarding, (ii) an ART test within 12 hours upon disembarking the vessel, and (iii) undergo subsequent ART tests on day 3 and day 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Such as lashing workers, stowage workers, stevedores, safety liaison officers, lifting supervisors, port operations officers. Workplace. Safety and Health (WSH) officers and marine pilots.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> PSA Corporation Pte Ltd and Jurong Port Pte Ltd.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Companies that Port Operators contract to carry out essential port terminal operations (e.g. Lashing, Stevedoring).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> PSA Marine Pte Ltd.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> A vessel licensed under the MPA (Harbour Craft) Regulations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Copthorne King's Hotel Singapore, Seacare Hotel and Hotel Re!.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> At Marina South Pier and West Coast Pier.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Entities that the Regional Ferry Terminal Operator contract with to carry out essential regional ferry terminal operations and services (cleaning, security, porterage etc).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Singapore Cruise Centre Pte Ltd.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Premises in the regional ferry terminal declared in a protected area order to be a protected area under the Infrastructure Protection Act, which may include, arrival/departure halls, jetties/berths, security screening and baggage sorting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Any individual who is not a passenger or member of the crew of the vessel/ferry and (a) is delivering goods or performing services connected to the business of the vessel/ferry; (b) is providing any service to any passenger or member of the crew of the vessel/ferry onboard the vessel/ferry; or (c) is effecting the arrest or detention of a vessel or service of any other legal process, whether or not a contractor or an employee or agent of the owner or agent of the relevant vessel/ferry.

- 7. Crew deployed on board harbour craft, whose registered residential address is a harbour craft
- 8. Crew deployed on board MPA licensed "SZH" Pleasure Craft<sup>22</sup> doing charter
- 9. Crew on board Off-Port Limits (OPL) Vessels
- 10. Crew on board regional ferries operated by Regional Ferry Service Operators<sup>23</sup>

7D

- 11. Tuas Port workers carrying out reclamation works
- 12. Any individual entering the workplace<sup>24</sup> of Port Operators and Pilotage Service Provider
- 13. Workers (e.g cleaning staff, security guards) at Marina South Pier, West Coast Pier and Changi Point Ferry Terminal

As defined in the MPA (Pleasure Craft) Regulations.Entity licensed by MPA to provide regional ferry services under MPA (Port) Regulations 63G.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Such as canteens, workshops, port terminals and marine services base.

## **Definition of Fully Vaccinated**

A worker is considered to be "**Fully Vaccinated**" for the periods set out in the third column in the table below if he or she fulfils the relevant requirements for those periods as set out in the corresponding second columns.

Category		Requirement(s)		Period
(1)	Vaccinated with no prior history of COVID-19 infection	(a) (b) (c)	Individual must not have had a history of COVID-19 infection; Individual must have been vaccinated against a COVID-19 infection by the administration of the appropriate regimen of any approved vaccine <sup>25</sup> ; and 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 COVID- 19 infection without prior vaccination	(a) (b)	Individual must not have been vaccinated against COVID-19 infection; and Individual must have recovered from COVID-19 infection.	Starting the day the individual first tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 via a PCR test and ending 270 days later.
		(a) (b) (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 from COVID- 19 infection and subsequently	(a) (b)	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>26</sup> ; and	Starting 14 days after the day the individual was so vaccinated and ending 365 days
	vaccinated	(c)	14 days or more have elapsed after the day the individual was so vaccinated.	later.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Please refer to footnote S/N. 25.

## **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 a 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 the SRS.

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

Negative Test Result ('AG-')	Positive Test Result ('AG+')	Invalid Test Result ('AG Invalid')
C T	C T	C T
Bold marking at 'C' and <u>No</u> marking at 'T'	Bold marking at 'C' and Bold marking at 'T'	No marking at 'C' and Bold marking at 'T'
	CT	C T
	Bold marking at 'C' and <u>Faint</u> 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. However, only HSA-approved ART kits are to be used.
- 6. If the Enterprise had incorrectly submitted an "AG-/AG+" result for a Worker on SRS, Enterprises are to email to <a href="AskSRS@hpb.gov.sg">AskSRS@hpb.gov.sg</a> with the below information:
  - a. NRIC
  - b. Name
  - c. Date of FET test affected by erroneous result
  - d. Company/ Employer for FET RRT
  - 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>