

MH 34:24/8

MOH Circular No. 135/2021

28 September 2021

Please refer to Distribution List

## VACCINATE OR REGULAR TEST ("VoRT") REGIME FOR HEALTHCARE AND COMMUNITY CARE SECTORS

With the transition towards COVID-19 resilience, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) announced on 6 August 2021 that all enterprises and/or institutions<sup>1</sup> including licensees and operators in the healthcare and community care sectors are required to implement the Vaccinate or Regular Test ("VoRT") regime with effect from 1 October 2021. This circular outlines the key principles and guidelines on the VoRT regime for the healthcare and community care sectors.

### **IDENTIFICATION AND VERIFICATION OF VACCINATION STATUS**

2. Under the VoRT regime, all enterprises (including freelancers) and/or institutions in the healthcare and community care sectors shall ensure that all employees (including staff in non-patient or non-public facing, backroom and administrative functions, operating from home) and persons who work under their direction (e.g. contractors, subcontractors, vendors, locums, students on attachment, internships, research and clinical training and volunteers), are fully vaccinated, or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Enterprises and/or institutions include MOH Holdings and all its entities, healthcare clusters and all public healthcare institutions (including public hospitals, community hospitals, national specialty centres and polyclinics), private healthcare institutions (including private hospitals, community hospitals, General Medical Clinics, Specialist Medical Clinics, General Practitioner (GP) Clinics, Dental Clinics, Private Allied Health (AH) Clinics/Private AH providers), Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) Clinics, Traditional & Complementary Medicine (T&CM) Service Providers, healthcare professional and related associations, councils and societies, Long Term Care (LTC) and community care/eldercare providers including service providers for residential care services (e.g. Nursing Homes, Psychiatric Rehabilitation Homes, Psychiatric Sheltered Homes), centre-based service providers (e.g. Active Ageing Centres, Active Ageing Care Hubs, Senior Care Centres, Active Ageing Hubs, Senior Activity Centres, Psychiatric Day Centres and related services such as CREST/COMIT, Cluster Support and Community Case Management Service), Home-based care service providers (e.g. Home Medical, Home Nursing, Home Palliative Care, Home Personal Care, including Home Personal Care component of Care Close to Home pilot, Home Therapy, home-based components of Integrated Home and Day Care Services and Interim Caregiver Service), renal dialysis centres, community mental health service providers, other LTC service providers such as home delivery service providers, case management service providers. In this regard, all healthcare institutions (HCIs) licensed under the Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act (PHMCA) and all registered medical and dental practitioners, nurses, pharmacists and allied health professionals (registered or unregistered) would be included regardless whether they are employees of a HCI, self-employed or in solo practice.





undergo regular testing if they are not. Collectively, they would be termed as "Workers" in this Circular.

3. The VoRT regime and the mandatory requirements set out in this Circular are imposed on Enterprises and/or Institutions under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020, and non-compliance is an offence for which enforcement action may be taken. Checks will be conducted by enforcement teams to verify if the Enterprises and/or Institutions have complied with the mandatory requirements set out in this Circular. The Circular also outlines measures that are applicable to healthcare and community care sectors only, factoring in key considerations that enable greater operational expediency.

4. For the purposes of the VoRT regime, a Worker is considered as fully vaccinated for the periods set out in <u>Table 1</u> below if he or she fulfils the relevant requirements for those periods as set out in the corresponding second columns. All enterprises and/or institutions in the healthcare and community care sectors shall adhere to the following when verifying if a Worker is fully vaccinated:

- i. Only recognize the proofs of vaccination as set out in Annex A; and
- ii. Regard Worker who decline or are unable to produce the proofs of vaccination as set out in <u>Annex A</u> as not fully vaccinated for the purposes of the VoRT requirement.

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

Table 1: Fully vaccinated Workers

<sup>2</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.









	without prior vaccination	(b)	Individual must have recovered from COVID-19 infection.	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 vaccinated	(a) (b) (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>3</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.

## **GUIDANCE FOR NOT FULLY VACCINATED WORKERS UNDER VORT REGIME**

5. All Workers who are not fully vaccinated in the healthcare and community care sectors are required to undergo regular Antigen Rapid Test (ART) twice a week and on separate days<sup>4</sup> under the VoRT regime. This enables early detection of possible infections among unvaccinated persons to keep the workplaces and community safe and to mitigate the risk of transmissions to patients, colleagues and the general public.

6. In the event that a Worker who is not Fully Vaccinated and has undergone PCR/ART, Enterprises or institutions shall:

<sup>4</sup> Enterprises and/or Institutions should guide their Workers who are not fully vaccinated to maintain a









<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Please refer to footnote S/N. 2.

<sup>3</sup> 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)...

- (1) verify<sup>5</sup> the PCR/ART test results obtained by their Workers;
- (2) not allow any Worker that has obtained an "AG+" or "AG Invalid", "Double Invalid" ART test result (please refer to <u>Annex B</u> on details of these various test results) or positive PCR test result to enter or remain in the workplace;
- (3) direct any Worker that has obtained an "AG+" or "Double Invalid' test result to undergo a PCR test at a Swab and Send Home Public Health Preparedness Clinic ("SASH PHPC")<sup>6</sup> and self-isolate at home; and
- (4) only allow the Worker with "AG+" or "AG Invalid", "Double Invalid" ART test result to enter or remain in the workplace if the PCR test undergone by the Worker has disclosed a test result that shows that he or she is <u>negative for</u> <u>COVID-19 infection</u>.

7. The VoRT regime will apply concurrently with any existing Rostered Routine Testing (RRT) or surveillance testing regime, including Polymerase Chain Rection Rostered Routine Testing (PCR), Nasopharyngeal (NP)/Oropharyngeal and Mid-Turbinate (OPMT), PCR-Deep Throat Saliva (DTS), or Fast and Easy Testing (FET) RRT/surveillance testing that these not fully vaccinated persons are currently subject to. All Workers who are subject to existing mandatory RRT/surveillance testing regimes<sup>7</sup> can recognise any of the tests mentioned above that were undergone by Workers during a given week as counting towards the VoRT requirement for the same week<sup>8</sup>.

8. Any Worker who has been certified by a medical practitioner in Singapore as medically ineligible to receive mRNA COVID-19 vaccines <u>and</u> are still required to undergo testing twice a week under the VoRT regime ("**Medically Ineligible Worker(s)**" or "**MIW(s)**") will be eligible for government-funded ART test kits. Healthcare and community care sectors 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. A sample template of the memo is appended in <u>Annex C</u> for reference. <u>Annex D</u> outlines the









<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</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>6</sup> The list of SASH PHPCs can be found at <u>http://phpc.gov.sg</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Partners in the residential and non-residential long-term care settings may refer to the advisory "Enhanced Measures and Testing Protocols for Community Care Sector" that was circulated on 12 Sep 2021 (Ref: COVID-19/SEP/2021/1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> For example, a Worker who is not fully vaccinated that underwent a PCR test as part of the RRT regime once during a week, Enterprises and/or Institutions are allowed to recognise the Worker's PCR test as satisfying one of the two weekly testing requirements for that Worker under the VoRT requirement.

process for Enterprises and Institutions to make a <u>one-off order<sup>9</sup></u> for governmentfunded ART test kits for their MIWs. Such provision for these MIWs will continue through 31 December 2021. For avoidance of doubt, all other persons who are not fully vaccinated would not be eligible for these Government-funded ART test kits. Enterprises and/or Institutions should make arrangements to comply with the requirements set out<sup>10</sup>.

## MODALITY OF TESTING FOR NOT FULLY VACCINATED WORKERS

9. [For Healthcare and Community Care Sectors Only] Healthcare and community care sectors are required to ensure compliance of testing of Workers who are not fully vaccinated. This can be conducted through <u>one</u> of the two modalities:

- i. **Unsupervised Self-Swab** for Enterprises and/or Institutions who have an internal system or documentation in place<sup>11</sup> to track compliance of ART testing and are able to submit collated information on staff testing and compliance at MOH's request. Collated information needs to be made available to MOH within 2 working days from the date of MOH's request; or
- ii. Employer Supervised Self-Swab (ESSS) which involves having not fully vaccinated persons use an ART test kit to carry out a swab on themselves under the supervision of a trained supervisor and have the test results of the Workers uploaded on the Swab Registration System (SRS). For Enterprises and/or Institutions who would like to undergo ESSS and upload record via SRS, please refer to <u>Annex E</u> for more information on the SRS, application for SRS access and training for supervisor.

10. All Workers who are not fully vaccinated are required to comply with the following when carrying out Unsupervised Self-Swab or ESSS:

- i. Workers who obtained an "AG Invalid" test result are to undertake a followup ART test;
- ii. Workers who obtained an "AG+" or "Double Invalid" test result are to undertake a follow-up PCR test;
- iii. Workers must use new ART test kits whenever they carry out unsupervised self-swab or ESSS; and



5









<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Only one order for each MIW should be made. Enterprises and Institutions who had submitted orders earlier in response to MOH's earlier communications separately need not re-submit the request again.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The cost of the ART test kits will be borne by Workers who remain unvaccinated by choice or their Enterprises and/or Institutions. Please note that all persons whose status is not verified in the stipulated manner will not be considered medically ineligible, and will be considered as remaining unvaccinated by choice.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The internal tracking may be in the form of an Excel sheet or any other soft-copy format that may be reportable to MOH when requested.

iv. Workers must properly dispose of used ART test kits after they have carried out unsupervised self-swab or ESSS<sup>12</sup>.

A set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on the VoRT regime is also 11. appended in Annex F for reference. Enterprises and/or Institutions are encouraged to refer to the FAQs for more information. For clarifications that are not addressed in the FAQs this Circular, could email or in you your queries to gobiz\_Healthcare@moh.gov.sg.

12. This Circular is for compliance by all Enterprises and/or Institutions including licensees and operators in the healthcare and community care sectors.

ASSOC PROF KENNETH MAK DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES MINISTRY OF HEALTH

## **Distribution List**

GCEOs, GCMBs, GCHROs and GCOOs of Clusters CEOs, CMBs, CHROs and COOs of Public Hospitals MDs, EDs and CHROs of National Specialty Centres CEOs, COOs, CHROs and Directors of Clinical Services of Polyclinics CEOs, GMs and MDs of Private Hospitals CEOs, COOs and MDs of Community Hospitals CEOs and CHROs of MOHH, MOHT, AIC, IHIS and ALPS Public Hospital EP and Ops Licensees of General Medical Clinics Licensees of Specialist Medical Clinics Licensees of Dental Clinics Licensees of Nursing Homes Licensees and Managers of Renal Dialysis Centres CEOs/Clinic Managers of General Practitioner Clinics All Registered Medical and Dental Practitioners

<sup>12</sup> Used test kits should be double-bagged and tied before disposing them in closed bins (e.g. pedal bins).









All Registered TCM Practitioners All Registered Allied Health Professionals Allied Health Associations and Societies TCM and T&CM Associations and Societies Operators of Long Term Care Services











#### **Recognised Proofs of Vaccination**

Enterprises and/or Institutions can establish how many Workers are fully vaccinated by checking their vaccination status using the 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).

Category of Fully Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
(1) and (3)	<ul> <li>Vaccination Status on TraceTogether application</li> <li>Enterprises and/on Institutions are to ensure that the 'Vaccinated' icon appears as shown in the picture on the right.</li> <li>Enterprises and/or Institutions are to ensure it is not a screenshot by asking the individual to click on other icons or refresh button within the app.</li> </ul>	I - 5 devices nearby I min ago   I win ago I min ago      Star COVID Health Status   I win ago   I win ago   I win ago   I win ago   Star COVID Health Status   I win ago   I win ago I



8









Category of Fully Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
(1) and (3)	Vaccination Status on HealthHub application Enterprises and/or Institutions are to ensure that the 'Vaccinated' icon as shown in the picture on the right. Enterprises and/or Institutions are to ensure it is not a screenshot by asking the individual to click on other icons within the app.	Vacinated Effective starting 14 Jun 2021OVID-19 FFIZER-BIONTECH/ Effective starting 14 Jun 2021SUMERTER BIONTECH/ COMENATY (A-COV)J MAY 2021AFFLES MEDICAL VACCINATION CENTRE- tack GHEE ccJ MAY 2021Demodel Colspan="2">Demodel Colspan="2"Demodel Colspan="2"
(1) and (3)	Physical Vaccination Card/SlipEnterprisesand/or Institutions are to only accept the original hardcopy card/slip.Enterprisesand/or Institutions are to ensure that the card/slip belongs to the individual by checking againstEnterprisesand/or Institutions are to ensure that the card/slip belongs to the individual by checking againstEnterprisesand/or Institutions are to ensure that the his/her Government-issued photo identification.Enterprisesand/or Institutions 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)).	<section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><section-header><form><form><form><form><form><form><form></form></form></form></form></form></form></form></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header></section-header>









College of Medicine Building 16 College Road Singapore 169854 TEL (65) 6325 9220 FAX (65) 6224 1677 WEB www.moh.gov.sg

Category of Fully Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
	Note. Hard-copy and digital overseas vaccination certs are not recognised.	
(1) and (3)	Vaccination StickerEnterprisesand/orInstitutions may refer to thetamper-proofvaccinationsticker to be affixed onto thepassport of employees whowerefullyvaccinatedoverseas with a World HealthOrganisation Emergency UseListing (WHO-EUL) vaccine.Please note that the validityof the sticker is until the endof their Short-Term VisitorPass validity or until 30September 2021, 2359hrs,whichever is earlier.Afterwhich,Enterprisesand/or Institutions may referto the TraceTogetherapplication to verifyvaccination status.	Serial number Serial number Serial number Serial Number Serial Serial Number Serial Se











Category of Fully Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
(2)	Discharge MemoEnterprisesand/orInstitutions are to only acceptthe original hardcopy memo.Enterprisesand/orInstitutions are to ensure thatthe memo belongs to theindividualbycheckingagainstthehis/Government-issuedphotoidentification.To ensure that the duration ofthe activity is within the 270daysexemptionperiodcalculated from the date ofthe 1st PCR test.Older versions of memo that	DISCHARGE MEMO  Name of Patient:  NRIC/FIN:  To whom it may concern,  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 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 abovementioned 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 gem@moh.gov.sg.  DR DERRICK HENG DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES</date>
	do not indicate the exemption period or the date of the PCR positive test result will not be accepted.	DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP  T T Toring the period of the Laws of Absence, you double termin in your place of accorrenchation residence as much as possible, and only have your place of accorrenchation to the Content of the Laws of Absence and the Absence and Absence
(2)	PET Exemption Notice Enterprises and/or Institutions are to only accept the original hardcopy memo. Enterprises and/or Institutions are to ensure that the memo belongs to the individual by checking against the his/ her Government-issued photo identification.	Image: Angle of the second













## ART Test Results and the Management of Workers after Self-swab or ESSS

### A. ART Test Results

- 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. Workers that obtain a second "**AG Invalid**" test result from this follow-up ART will be regarded as having a "**Double Invalid**" test result.
- 3. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS or unsupervised self-swab, <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 and/or Institutions 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. [For enterprise/institutions using ESSS and reporting through SRS, Enterprises and/or Institutions 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 <u>ART test kit</u>

Negative Test Result ('AG-')	Positive Test Result ('AG+')	Invalid Test Result ('AG Invalid')
<u>Bold</u> marking at 'C' and <u>No</u> marking at 'T'	<u>Bold</u> marking at 'C' and <u>Bold</u> marking at 'T'	<u>No</u> marking at 'C' and <u>Bold</u> marking at 'T'
<i>G</i>		<b>Ministry of Healt</b> College of Medicin 16 College Road

SERVICE

Bold marking at 'C'	<u>No</u> marking at 'C'
and	and
Faint marking at 'T'	<u>No</u> marking at 'T'

If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS or unsupervised self-swab and uses an ART test kit other than the SD Bio Sensor and Abbott Panbio ART test kit, Enterprises and/or Institutions are to refer to the manufacturer's instructions on how to interpret the test results obtained by their Workers.

- 4. If the employer had wrongly submitted a "AG+" or "Double Invalid" result for a Worker on SRS, Enterprises and/or Institutions must use this form to submit the details and updated result of the Worker <u>https://go.gov.sg/artpositivenoncompliance</u>
- B. Management of Workers after Swab tests
- 5. If a Worker obtains an "AG+" or "Double Invalid" test result from the testing Enterprises and/or Institutions are required to contact and make an appointment for that Worker to visit a doctor for a confirmatory PCR test at a SASH PHPC as soon as possible.



13









#### Sample Template of Memo issued by a medical practitioner in Singapore Medically Ineligible Worker (MIW) under VoRT



**CERTIFICATION OF MEDICAL INELIGIBILITY FOR mRNA COVID-19 VACCINES** 

Full Name (as per NRIC/FIN/Passport):	
NRIC/FIN/Passport Number:	
Contact Number	

To whom it may concern,

This is to certify that the above-mentioned person is medically ineligible for mRNA COVID-19 vaccines because he/she is a:

(Please tick where appropriate)

Person who developed an allergic reaction to a previous dose of any mRNA COVID-19 vaccine; or

□ Person who developed myocarditis or pericarditis following administration of any mRNA COVID19 vaccine; or

Person who developed a severe adverse reaction to a previous dose of any mRNA COVID-19 vaccine and had been determined that he/she should not receive a second mRNA vaccine dose; or

Person who has not taken any COVID-19 mRNA vaccine but has been determined to be allergic to polyethylene glycol (PEG)/ polysorbate through a positive skin prick/ intradermal test; or

Person with/ under the following condition(s)/ treatment1:

Transplant within past 3 months; and/or

Aggressive immunotherapy; and/or

Active cancer on treatment.

Please indicate the date when the above criteria will cease (where applicable): \_

<sup>1</sup> Refers to patients in the listed groups who have been previously assessed by a doctor to be unsuitable to take the mRNA COVID-19 vaccines. This is however not an absolute contraindication to mRNA COVID-19 vaccinations. Please refer to MOH Circular No. 101/2021 for updated recommendations on contraindications and indications to mRNA COVID-19 vaccines.



14







## Request Form for one-off order of government-funded ART Kits for Medically Ineligible Worker (MIW) under VoRT

- From 1 Oct 2021, unvaccinated persons, including the Medically Ineligible Worker (MIW), will need to be tested twice weekly using ART testing.
- Enterprises and/or Institutions under the Healthcare and Community Care sectors could request for Government-funded ART kits for their MIW through submitting a one-time order form using the link below.
- Each MIW will receive a box of 25 Panbio kits for testing over a period of 3 months till end December 2021.

Online order form for MIW on the VoRT	https://go.gov.sg/artkits- medicallyineligible
For enquiries on ART kits request for MIW, please email to:	Gobiz_Healthcare@moh.gov.sg



15









Annex E

#### Information on Employer Supervised Self-Swab (ESSS) and Swab Registration System (SRS) (Application for SRS Access and Training of Supervisors to manage ESSS)

## Only Applicable for Enterprises and/or Institutions who opt to do ESSS and needs to submit results through SRS

Enterprises and/or Institutions in the Healthcare and Community Care sectors can opt to conduct unsupervised self-swabs or Employer Supervised Self Swabs (ESSS). For those conducting ESSS, the results need to be uploaded to the Swab Registration System (SRS) and enterprises and/or institutions would be required to apply for access to SRS. This document outlines the requirements to conduct ESSS and the process for Enterprises and/or Institutions in the Healthcare and Community Care sectors to apply for access to SRS.

## **Requirements for Enterprises and/or Institutions that conduct ESSS**

- 1. 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 digital tools such as video conferencing.
- 2. Enterprises and/or Institutions conducting ESSS for their Workers are required to ensure that:
  - they have appointed an adequate number of Supervisors to supervise every Worker whenever they carry out the swabs on themselves;
  - the Supervisor has satisfied the training requirements set out under paragraph 3 & 4 below and properly performs his supervisory role<sup>13</sup>;
  - (3) Workers comply with the steps set out in <u>Annex B</u> and properly perform the swabs on themselves;
  - (4) the test results obtained by Workers from ESSS are uploaded on the Swab Registration System ("**SRS**"); and









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

- (5) Workers who obtain 'AG+' or 'Double Invalid' test results while conducting ESSS are managed by the Enterprise in accordance with the requirements outlined in this Circular.
- (6) the ART test kits used for ESSS are those that are set out on the Health Sciences Authority's website at <u>https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/ covid19\_ARTselftests</u>

## Training for Supervisors

- 3. Enterprises and/or Institutions 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 and/or Institutions must ensure that he or she is Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19<sup>14</sup> (refer to the definition of Fully Vaccinated outlined in this Circular) before they can perform any supervisory role.
- 4. Enterprises and/or Institutions conducting ESSS are advised to nominate at least two Workers per location to undergo training to be a Supervisor. The training provided by HMI will equip Supervisors with the knowledge needed to supervise the conduct of 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 <u>VirtualCampus (wizlearn.com) as soon as possible.</u>
- 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 <u>https://hmi-ihs.com/supervisory-trainingin-art-self-swab/</u> for latest details on the ESSS training details.

### Conduct of ESSS by Workers

6. Enterprises and/or Institutions are required to ensure that their Workers comply with the following when carrying out ESSS:







<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Enterprises can consider asking Supervisors to verify their vaccination status via TraceTogether.

- Workers must be supervised<sup>15</sup> by a Supervisor whenever they carry out ESSS;
- (2) Workers who obtained an "AG Invalid" test result are to undertake a followup ART test;
- (3) Workers who obtained an "AG+" or "Double Invalid" test result are to undertake a follow-up PCR test at a SASH PHPC;
- (4) Workers must use new ART test kits whenever they carry out ESSS; and
- (5) Workers must properly dispose of used ART test kits after they have carried out ESSS<sup>16</sup>.

## Uploading of Test Results onto the SRS

- 7. Enterprises and/or Institutions are required to upload the test results obtained by their Workers from ESSS onto SRS in accordance with the following:
  - if the test result is "AG+" or "Double Invalid", Enterprises and/or Institutions are to upload the test result of that Worker onto SRS <u>no later than 30</u> <u>minutes</u> after the ESSS for that specific Worker is completed;
  - (2) if the test result is "AG-", Enterprises and/or Institutions are to upload the test result of that Worker <u>no later than 24 hours</u> after the ESSS for that specific Worker is completed; and
  - (3) the requirements set out under paragraphs 3 and 4 of <u>Annex B</u>.

# Request for access to SRS for Enterprises and/or Institutions in the Healthcare and Community Care Sectors

8. To access the SRS to upload results, Enterprises and/or Institutions will need to appoint a staff to manage the access to SRS on behalf of the Enterprises and/or Institutions. An account for each appointed staff would need to be created. The apppointed staff will need to create the relevant links for all the not fully vaccinated Worker to report their results. More details on using the SRS will be provided during the online training session for the appointed staff. Enterprises and/or Institutions









<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> This can be done in person or virtually.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Used test kits should be double-bagged and tied before disposing them in closed bins (e.g. pedal bins).

in the Healthcare and Community Care Sector can register for an SRS account at <u>https://go.gov.sg/srs-account-creation-healthcare</u> or through QR code below.



https://go.gov.sg/srs-account-crea on-healthcare









