

Pilot Programme on COVID-19 Fast and Easy Tests for NUS Hostels

09 August 2021

Background

1. NUS has introduced regular COVID-19 FET (Fast and Easy Testing) for all residents as a pilot programme, as an added precaution to safeguard the health of our community. This will be rolled out in Week 1 of Semester 1, AY21/22 (start date: 10th August 2021).
2. Hostel residents are a priority group for this pilot programme, in view of the high density, communal living environment which may pose higher risk of community transmission.
3. The mode of testing is the self-swab Antigen Rapid Tests (ART). Self-test kits are provided to residents free of charge and testing will initially be conducted via proctored Zoom sessions in groups.
4. Frequency of testing for hostels will be either monthly (for fully vaccinated residents who have declared their status in uNivUS) or weekly (for unvaccinated residents or those who have not made a declaration).

General instructions for hostels

5. Testing Criteria, Frequency and Validity

The frequency of the FET, using ART self-test kits, will vary depending on the individual's vaccination status and whether he/she is a resident on campus, as shown in the table below:

	Vaccination Status	FET Frequency & Implementation
Hostel Residents on campus	Fully Vaccinated*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Testing will commence from 10 August 2021• Subsequently, proctored self-swab test once a month
	In Progress**/ Not Vaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Testing will commence from 10 August 2021• Subsequently, proctored self-swab test once a week
All Students & Staff (Non-Resident)	Fully Vaccinated*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-swab test required before 1st visit to campus, effective from 10 August 2021• Subsequently, self-swab test required every 20th visit to campus (i.e. before 21st visit)***
	In Progress**/ Not Vaccinated	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-swab test required before 1st visit to campus, effective from 10 August 2021• Subsequently, self-swab test required every 5th visit to campus (i.e. before 6th visit)***
Please visit the OSHE NUS Emergency website for details, including FAQs.		

*You are fully vaccinated only 14 days after receiving your second dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine.

**If you have received only the first dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine, your vaccination status will be "In Progress".

****For non-residents, uNivUS will help you keep track of your visits to campus as long as you are connected to NUS WiFi from your mobile device. You will receive a prompt from uNivUS when you are due to take a self-swab test.*

6. **Collection of Test kits**

- a. Residents are to update the uNivUS App in their mobile phones to the latest version from Thursday 05 August 2021 onwards for the collection of test kits. They can use the uNivUS Self-Test App to check their eligibility status for the collection of test kits. See [Guide](#).
- b. Collection of test kits for hostel residents will start on Thursday 05 August 2021.
- c. All hostel residents should collect their test kits from their respective Halls, RCs, Residences and Yale-NUS College ONLY (and not from other campus collection points, which need to cater to the rest of the NUS community).
- d. Hostel Residents are to collect their test kits from the respective management offices of the Halls, RCs, Residents, Yale-NUS College basing on the instruction and schedules of their respective hostel management offices.
- e. Residents are to use the 'Test Kit Collection QR Code' to check their eligibility of collection of the test kits each time.
- f. The test kits are provided free of charge to all students, staff and hostel residents in this exercise. It comes in a box of 2-Test Kits. The box of 2-Test Kits is NOT FOR SALE.
- g. To be eligible to collect the subsequent box of 2-test kits after the resident has collected the initial first box set, the resident has to use up the TWO test kits in the box as according to individual's testing schedule (as stated in Para 5) and upload the TWO separate test results in the uNivUS Self-Test App.
- h. If only ONE test result has been uploaded in the uNivUS Self-Test App after using up the two test kits in the box, the resident is NOT eligible to collect the next box set. In that case, the resident has to acquire his/her own test kit to do the test and upload the second test result in order to be eligible to collect the next box of 2-Test Kits.

7. **Collection Procedure of 01 box of 2-Test Kits per Resident at the collection point**

- a. Each resident is only allowed to collect 01 box of 2-Test Kits (see picture) at each collection. Eligibility of the resident to collect his/her test kits is based on individual's record in the uNivUS App.



NUS FET Test Kits issued to NUS residents is a box of 2-Test Kits.

- b. Procedure for the collection of the 01 box of 2-Test Kits at the hostel collection point.
 - i. Resident comes to the hostel collection point, must observe the SMMs and follow the instructions at the collection point. Resident is to have his/her valid NUSafe Green Pass as he/she may be asked to present it for NUS SMM compliance.
 - ii. Resident can use the uNivUS Self-Test App to check his/her eligibility status for the collection of test kits.
 - iii. Resident will be shown the 'Test Kit Collection QR Code'.
 - iv. The resident is to use his/her uNivUS QR Code Reader in the mobile phone to scan to the 'Test Kit Collection QR Code'. See [Guide](#) to scan.
 - v. The uNivUS App will check and show on the uNivUS App if the resident is eligible to collect a box of 2-Test Kits.
 - vi. Resident is to show the uNivUS result page to the manning staff.
 - vii. If collection is allowed shown on uNivUS result page, manning staff will hand over 01 box of 2-Test Kits, together with a set of printed Self-Test Kit instruction.

8. **Scheduling of collection and proctored Zoom sessions**

- a. Each Hall/RC/Residence/YNC will inform their residents of the time slots during which they can pick up their self-test kits from the hostel management office or a central collection point.
- b. Each hostel will schedule Zoom sessions (30-45 minutes) that residents will be able to sign up for. Residents should sign up based on the schedule in the table above (Para 5), and any other group assignment that the hostel management office allocates. These groupings help to ensure that testing is spread out across the hostel community so that any clusters are detected as early as possible.
- c. Residents who have special requests or needs that do not allow them to sign up for Zoom sessions over the semester should inform their RF or hostel management office to arrange for in-person test sessions, on an exceptional basis.

9. **Arrangements for Family Members of Residential Staff**

- a. Family members of Masters/RFs, RADs *who are above 12 years of age* should follow the same testing regimen, i.e. monthly if fully vaccinated, or weekly if not fully vaccinated.
- b. Separate instructions for collection of test kits and updating of records will be provided by the Office of Housing Services.

10. **Protocol for Zoom-Proctored Self-Testing**

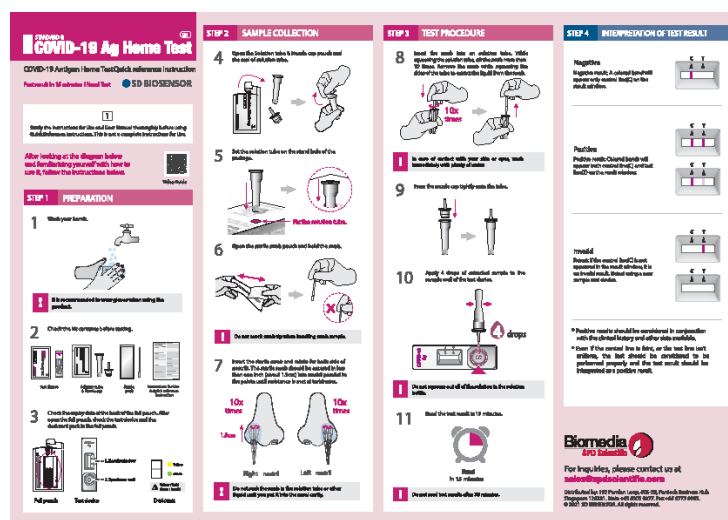
- a. Residents shall participate in the respective hostel Zoom-Proctored Self-Test sessions to do their self-testing.

- b. Residents will receive instructions from their respective hostel management offices on the schedule, the manner and method of conducting the Zoom-Proctored Self-Test sessions.

11. Conduct of Self-Test using the FET

a. Self-Test Procedure (with pdf file and video link)

- i. Residents should refer to the [SD Biosensor Home Self-Test Kit instruction](#) to familiarize themselves with the use of the test kit and the procedure of conducting of Self-Test.



SD Biosensor Home Self-Test Kit instruction

- ii. Residents should click the [Home Test Kits | SDcovidkit.com](#) for the video demonstration and instruction on the use of the test kit and procedure for conducting of Self-Test.

Residents may refer to MOH's website [MOH FET ART Self-Test website](#) for a step-by-step visual guide on how to perform a COVID-19 self-test. At the end of the self-test, residents are NOT to upload their results on the MOH's website as per the MOH video. Instead, they are to **upload their test results using the uNivUS Self-Test App on their mobile phones**. See [Guide on Uploading of Test Result Photo into uNivUS Self-Test App](#).

- iii. Before starting the Self-Test, check and ensure that you are suitable to do the Self-Test against the three conditions listed below. You are NOT suitable to take the Self-Test if you answer 'YES' to any of the following conditions. You are to inform the Proctor immediately and follow the instruction provided.
 - 1) If you have any acute respiratory infection (ARI) symptoms such as fever, cough, flu, or runny nose, please do not perform any ART self-testing and visit a SASH clinic listed on [phpc.gov.sg](#).
 - 2) If you have a nosebleed in the past 24 hours, or nasal surgery in the last 4 weeks, or facial surgery in the last 8 weeks, do not perform any FET self-testing at home. Instead, please visit University Health Centre (UHC) Clinic, or a licensed ART provider for a private-paid ART to be conducted.

- iv. Residents are encouraged to acquire their own disposable plastic gloves for conducting the self- test.
- v. Before you perform the test, ensure the following:
 - 1) You are in a well-ventilated room (e.g. next to an open window), away from others.
 - 2) Find a flat surface to place your cartridge. You may need a mirror and a timer to guide you.
 - 3) The surface use can be easily cleaned and wiped down (your room may be a good place to conduct the self-test. Do not use the common toilet/washroom).
 - 4) Make a small cross-cut or punch a small hole on the paper test kit box for holding up the solution tube to facilitate the test (see Step 5 on the SD Biosensor Home Self-Test Procedure Instructions in Para 11.a.i.).
 - 5) Wash hands before starting the self-test.
- vi. **Doing the Self-Test.** Follow the instruction of the Zoom-Proctor Self-Test session, referring to the pdf file, or MOH's website [MOH FET ART Self-Test website](#) for a step-by-step visual guide, or the SD Biosensor test kit video guide [Home Test Kits | SDcovidkit.com](#), to do your test.

Reporting and Uploading of Test Result. Obtain the result after the 15 minutes wait. Use the uNivUS Self-Test App to take a photograph and upload the test result within 30 minutes of getting the result. See [Guide on Uploading of Test Result Photo into uNivUS Self-Test App](#).
- vii. Follow the Proctor's instruction to record your attendance.
- viii. Dispose of the used test kit properly.
 - 1) Bag all used items in the test kit into one plastic bag or sealable bag (zip-lock bag) and seal it.
 - 2) Place the sealed bag into another plastic bag. Tie the second bag tightly with a rubber band or cable tie.
 - 3) Throw it into a rubbish chute or pedal bin immediately.
- ix. Wash hands after completing the self-test.

12. **Response to Test Result**

- a. **Negative Result.** Even if you test negative, please stay vigilant. Do continue to observe safe distancing measures and practice good personal hygiene such as regular handwashing and wearing a mask when leaving your home. Continue to monitor your health and test yourself where necessary.
- b. **Invalid Result.** An invalid test may mean that the test was not performed correctly. You must perform a second ART test immediately. If your second ART test is still invalid, besides uploading into the uNivUS Self-Test App, you are to take a photo of the test result(s) with your identification document (ID) in the same photo and visit UHC Clinic, or a SASH clinic immediately for a confirmatory PCR test. The list of SASH clinics may be found at [phpc.gov.sg](#). Please bring (1) the photo of your results + ID together and (2) your physical ID (NRIC/Passport) to the clinic. Follow the steps as listed in Para 12.c. below.

- c. **Positive Result.** You have declared a Positive (+ve) FET result. Please do the following:
- i. Immediately wear a mask properly at ALL TIMES.
 - ii. Inform the Proctor of your session, hostel management office and Master, and follow their instructions.
 - iii. Inform your Faculty Dean's Office/Department Office.
 - iv. Go to UHC, or a Public Health Preparedness Clinic (PHPC) phpc.gov.sg participating in the Swab and Send Home (SASH) initiative to see a doctor soonest possible and get a confirmatory PCR swab test done.
 - v. Return to your residence and follow the instruction of Medical Leave and the associated Stay Home Notice for self-isolation.
 - vi. Follow the instruction of your hostel management for arrangement for self-isolation and compliance of LOA.
 - vii. Wait for the confirmatory PCR swab test result. Check your result on SMS, or HealthHub, or TraceTogether App.
 - viii. Inform your Faculty Dean's Office/Department Office/Master and Management Office of your hostel of the confirmatory PCR swab test result and follow their instructions.
 - ix. If you are confirmatory PCR swab tested Positive (+ve), you are to remain self-isolation in your residence and wait for MOH to arrange transportation to take you to the hospital.
 - x. If you are confirmatory PCR swab tested Negative (-ve), you are to free to resume your normal activity.

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