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Ref: OSHE 044/21

CIRCULAR 40

27 December 2021

NUS Staff and Students

**COVID-19: UPDATE ON VACCINATION-DIFFERENTIATED SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES**

As Singapore continues with Vaccination-Differentiated Safe Management Measures (VDS), the University will also implement VDS on our campuses to protect the health and well-being of our staff and student community. We must continue to remain vigilant to reduce the risk of community infection.

1. **Staff and students are to declare their vaccination status in uNivUS by 2 January 2022**, if you have not already done so. Otherwise, you will be regarded as an unvaccinated individual. Instructions on how to update your vaccination status can be found in [Circular 39](#).
2. The NUS FET ART Self-Test Programme for all staff and students as per [Circular 34](#) shall continue **till 31 January 2022**.
3. **With effect from 1 February 2022**, all vaccinated staff and students **will not** be required to have a valid Fast and Easy Test (FET) ART Self-Test to come to campus. The FET ART Self-Test requirement remains valid for students participating in team sports pilot, living in hostels and others. Further details on VDS for students will be released at a later date.

**A. VDS for Staff From 1 January 2022**

4. **From 1 January 2022**, up to 50% of staff who can work from home are allowed to return to the workplace. HODs may adopt split team arrangements.
5. Only the following staff can return to the workplace:
  - a. Staff who are fully vaccinated.
  - b. Staff who have recovered from COVID-19 within 180 days (from the date of first positive PCR test result).
  - c. Staff who are medically ineligible<sup>1</sup> for vaccination.
6. From 1 January 2022 until 14 January 2022, unvaccinated staff who need to return to the workplace will require a valid negative Pre-Event Testing (PET) result from an MOH-approved COVID-19 test provider (valid for 24 hours prior to entry), at their own cost. This PET requirement supersedes the NUS FET ART Self-Test. They are to upload their PET results in uNivUS. [Instructions on uploading of PET results](#) is

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<sup>1</sup>Must be certified by a doctor. Staff may seek medical certification from a doctor at UHC, or any medical clinic at their own cost, for being Medical Ineligible (MI). Their medically ineligible status will expire upon reaching the date indicated by the certifying doctor or when they may take the vaccine. Staff must submit the MI medical certification to Mr Yam Guan Shyh, OSHE for exemption from the PET requirement.

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available on the [Emergency Website](#). From 15 January 2022 onwards, this PET concession will be removed. Please refer to para (4) in this latest [MOM advisory](#).

7. Partially vaccinated staff, defined as those who have taken at least one dose of the Covid-19 vaccine but are not yet fully vaccinated, will be given a grace period until 31 January 2022 to complete their vaccination regime. During this grace period, they will be able to enter the workplace with a negative PET result, at their own cost.
8. Unvaccinated staff who have been certified to be medically ineligible (MI) for vaccination are exempted from the PET requirement. However, they should perform the 4-days validity FET ART Self-Test in order to be allowed to return to campus to work. (See [Circular 34](#) Para 2d.)
9. Unvaccinated staff who have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days (from the date of first positive PCR test result) are exempted from PET requirement (with effect from 1 January 2022) and FET ART self-test (with the existing 90 days exemption from NUS FET ART Self-Test Programme, and with effect from 1 February 2022). They are allowed to return to campus to work. Staff must submit the MOH Isolation Order to Mr Yam Guan Shyh, OSHE for exemption from the PET requirement. After the 180 days exemption, they are to have a MOH approved PET valid for 24 hours prior to entry as per unvaccinated staff (Para 6).
10. Non-NUS employees who work on campus (e.g. independent contractors and vendors) will be subject to the same VDS applicable to NUS staff. This, however, excludes visitors to NUS premises, as these are transient in nature.
11. HODs can explore if unvaccinated staff can continue to work from home, or redeploy them to work on tasks that can be performed from home (if such jobs are available).

#### **B. VDS for Students on Internship**

12. Students serving their internships on NUS campuses are to adhere to the above requirements for staff.
13. Unvaccinated students who are already on internship are advised to clarify with their host companies on whether they will be able to continue with their internship remotely and still complete their internship requirement.

#### **C. VDS for Pre-employment Training<sup>2</sup> (PET) Students on Campus**

14. VDS for PET students will be released at a later date.

#### **D. VDS for Continuing Education and Training (CET) Students to Campus**

15. VDS for CET students will be released at a later date.

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<sup>2</sup> This refers to undergraduates and students who are enrolled in full time “Master” or “concurrent degree” programmes where the progression to or enrolment in a Master programme is without a separate application and admission exercise, including Master for Architecture programme.

### **E. VDS for Visitors to Campus**

16. **With effect from 1 January 2022**, all visitors to campus will need to either be
- vaccinated,
  - recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days, or
  - medically ineligible for vaccination, in order to come to campus.
17. The NUS host is to check the vaccination status of the visitors before allowing them to enter buildings on campus.

### **F. Other Safe Management Measures**

18. Please refer to [Update of Summary of NUS SMMs](#) for other prevailing Safe Management Measures.

If you have further questions, please check with the management office of your faculty, school or department, or email [COVID-19@nus.edu.sg](mailto:COVID-19@nus.edu.sg).

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**Stay updated:**

- NUS circulars, FAQs, emergency contact numbers, as well as useful links on the COVID-19 situation are available at [emergency.nus.edu.sg](https://emergency.nus.edu.sg).
- The latest NUS-related news, research and commentaries on COVID-19 are available [here](#).
- Please refer to the [Ministry of Health](#) for the latest information on the COVID-19 situation in Singapore.