

CPE 47th Advisory: Tightening of Selected Safe Management Measures in Private Education Institutions from 8 September 2021

Dear Sirs,

1. On 6 September 2021, the Ministry of Health (MOH) announced the tightening of selected Safe Management Measures (SMMs) in response to the rapid growth in the number of COVID-19 cases. The media release from MOH is attached below:



MOH Press
Release.pdf

[Updated] Update to FET Regime to increase frequency of testing

2. Currently, the groups of staff (including part-time employees) that need to undergo the Fast and Easy Testing Rostered Routine Testing (FET RRT) with testing done every 14 days are as follows:

- a) All staff teaching in mask-off settings such as dance, singing, wind/brass instruments, voice and theatre training, physical education and other sports-related activities;
- b) All staff working in a gym and/or fitness studio with individuals who are unmasked;
- c) All cleaners hired directly by Private Education Institutions (PEIs) or contract cleaning staff if they clean in a high-risk setting where individuals are unmasked (e.g. canteens, sports facilities);
- d) All F&B staff hired directly by PEIs, e.g. canteen staff; and
- e) All cleaners operating in settings with children under 12 years old.

3. **From 13 September 2021, all groups covered under paragraph 2 will be subject to testing once every seven days instead of 14 days.**

4. From 13 September 2021, the following changes will be made to the FET RRT regime:

- a) **The FET RRT requirement will be extended to more settings with frequent community interactions.** This includes settings such as retail mall workers, supermarket staff, last-mile delivery personnel (including parcel and food delivery personnel), and public and private transport workers (taxi drivers, private hire car drivers and all public transport frontline staff). We will release more details on how the requirement would apply to PEIs once they are ready.
- b) Frequency of FET RRT: The **frequency of mandatory RRT** will increase from once every fourteen days to **once a week**. This enhanced frequency will help to detect and ringence cases more quickly.

- c) Subsidies for FET RRT: The Government will **subsidise the costs of all tests under the FET RRT regime till the end of the year** (previously 30 September 2021).

Orders of Kits

5. **For PEIs already on the FET regime that require replenishment of kits:**
- Login to <http://go.gov.sg/fet-kits> with their contact number and email address to self-order the Antigen Rapid Test (ART) test kits replenishments. This is applicable for the **second batch of ART test kits and subsequent cycles**.
 - Cater for a lead time of at least 7 working days when ordering the replenishments, and each order should be capped at one-month supply of ART test kits.
6. **For PEIs that are newly coming on board the FET regime:**
- Nominate **PEI Point of Contacts (POCs) (at most 2 per premise)**, who are responsible for the overall implementation of Employer Supervised Self-Swab (ESSS) in the PEI. Responsibilities of the PEI POCs include updating the nominal roll of staff to be tested, determining the number of ART test kits required and managing the Swab Registration System (SRS) account.
 - Nominate **2 employees per premise as supervisors** to supervise the required staff performing self-swab. Please see [Attachment 2](#) for Health Promotion Board (HPB)'s guidelines for supervisors. Nominated supervisors will have to attend a 4-hour virtual Supervisory Training in ART Self-Swab.
 - Complete Nominal Roll for all staff** (see [Attachment 1](#)) required to undergo FET.
 - Determine number of test kits to be ordered, based on Nominal Roll.** The mode of distribution for the kits will be as follows:
 - For 75 kits or less (monthly), self-collection. PEIs should be typically assigned a pick-up point within 2km of its address.
 - For 76 kits or more (monthly), direct delivery to PEI designated premise.
 - Submit all relevant details (including those stated in paragraphs 6a to 6c) via the following FormSG link (<https://go.gov.sg/prb4jv>).

Attachment 1	 Attachment 1 - FET Staff NR for PEIs (Au)
Attachment 2	 Attachment 2 - Supervisor Guidelin

7. PEIs should continue to refer to **CPE's 42nd, 43rd and 46th Advisories** in the Annex for the relevant necessary details on the implementation of the FET regime.

[New] Testing for Staff Working Onsite

8. Besides the sectors' staff groups that are subject to mandatory FET RRT, regular testing will be stepped up for those working onsite. The Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) will undertake a time-limited distribution of ART kits to companies. Each registered company will receive 8 kits per employee, for weekly testing of their staff over a two-month period. With these kits, we expect all PEIs to initiate weekly testing for their onsite staff. More details on the regular testing for staff working onsite and the distribution of ART kits will be made available at a later date.

[Updated] Workplace Measures

9. PEIs are also reminded to continue to adhere to the tightened SMMs for the workplace. Up to 50% of the employees who can work from home will still be allowed to return to the workplace. There should also continue to be no cross-deployment of staff. **All social gatherings and interactions at the workplace must be cancelled or deferred from 8 September 2021.**

10. In addition, tougher action will be taken if there are positive cases among workers who are infected. MOM has required employers to put in place a maximum Work-From-Home (WFH) requirement over a 14-day period, should one or more of their workers be found to have contracted COVID-19 and have returned to their workplace. **To minimise disruptions to teaching and learning at education institutions (including PEIs), this requirement will only apply to employees at these institutions who are able to work from home. Employees whose functions are critical to the conducting or supporting of teaching and learning may continue to return to the workplace, unless otherwise required by law [e.g. been placed on Quarantine Order (QO) or received a Health Risk Warning (HRW) and have yet to receive a negative PCR result].**

11. Please refer to the MOM [website](#) for the full workplace SMMs.

'Vaccinate or Regular Test' Regime for PEI staff from 1 October 2021

12. From now till 30 September 2021, we strongly encourage all PEI staff to get vaccinated if they are medically eligible and have not done so.

13. From 1 October 2021, the "Vaccinate or Regular Test" regime will commence for all PEI staff and service providers who come into regular contact with students below 12 years old. This includes but is not limited to administrative staff, adjunct staff, student care centre staff, canteen and bookshop vendors, CCA instructors, contracted cleaners, school bus drivers/attendants and security guards, and excludes those with no or transient contact with students, such as contract facilities management staff, and ad hoc visitors to the school. Unvaccinated persons in this group will be required to take an ART twice a week. Only fully vaccinated persons will be exempted from regular testing (except for groups of staff indicated in paragraphs 2 and 4). Further details on the implementation will be shared with PEIs subsequently.

14. PEIs must adhere to all prevailing SMMs on screening, hygiene and safe distancing:
- a) Screening: Students and staff who are unwell, or who have household members on Home Quarantine Order/Stay Home Notice or have adult household members with flu-like symptoms such as fever and cough, are required to stay away from school and campus.
 - b) Hygiene: High-touch surfaces should be cleaned frequently, and disinfection of premises should be carried out daily, if not more frequently.
 - c) Safe distancing: All students and staff are to wear masks at all times¹. There should be staggered arrival and dismissal to reduce congestion and intermingling among students in school and on campus.

¹Children under 6 years old are not required to wear masks. Nonetheless, they are encouraged to wear a mask or face shield.

15. PEIs should regularly remind all students and staff that if they are unwell, even with mild flu-like symptoms, they should see a doctor immediately. They should minimise in-person interactions and isolate themselves at home as far as possible, unless they need to attend to essential activities (such as medical appointments). Students and staff should adopt safe distancing and good hygiene practices at all times.

16. PEIs should check (www.gov.sg/features/covid-19) for updates and the latest advisories.

PEIs that are SSG Registered Training Providers

17. PEIs that are SSG registered Training Providers must also comply with **SSG Circular/PPD/2021/18: Advisory on the tightening of selected Safe Management Measures (SMMS) from 8 September 2021.**

18. Please contact us via CPE_Registration@ssg.gov.sg if you require any clarification. Thank you.

Item	Attachment
42 nd Advisory	 <p>Email 42nd Advisory to all PEIs on prep for</p>
43 rd Advisory	 <p>Email 43rd Advisory to all PEIs on additic</p>
46 th Advisory	 <p>Email 46th Advisory to all PEIs on resu</p>
FAQs	 <p>FAQ for FET.pdf</p>