

05 October 2021

Dear Enterprises

[UPDATED] FAST AND EASY TESTING FOR SUPERMARKETS

1. Since late-June 2021, the Fast and Easy Testing (“FET”) regime has been progressively rolled out for all higher risk sectors, including Supermarkets. **From 27 September 2021 onwards, all workers¹ in enterprises that operate Supermarkets (as defined in paragraph 1A) (“Enterprises”) must comply with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice. For avoidance of doubt, the mandatory requirements are specified in the paragraphs below prefaced with the words ‘[Mandatory]’.**
- 1A. Supermarkets refer to consumer facing outlets with a Supermarket License from Singapore Food Agency (SFA).

Background

2. The purpose of the FET regime is to further reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in settings with unmasked clients or where services are performed under prolonged and close contact with clients, or where there are frequent interactions with the community. Under the FET regime, enterprises are required to ensure that their employees and persons who work under their direction (e.g. vendors) undergo regular FET using the COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test (“ART”), regardless of their vaccination status. Self-employed persons working in these settings should also ensure that they adhere to the FET regime.
3. The FET regime and the mandatory requirements 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 operations². Checks will be conducted by enforcement teams to verify if Enterprises have complied with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice.

¹ This includes both full and part time employees and vendors. External vendors include (i) cleaners (ii) customer-facing vendors (e.g. promoters) (iii) all other vendors stationed in supermarket outlets

² Enterprises are reminded to comply with the other requirements imposed under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 and implement the [Safe Management Measures \(“SMMs”\)](#) as set out on the [COVID Gobusiness website](#). They are also reminded to comply with the relevant [SMMs](#) that have been set out by Enterprise Singapore (ESG), Housing & Development Board (HDB), Singapore Food Agency (SFA), Sport Singapore (SportSG), National Environment Agency (NEA), Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Singapore Tourism Board (STB) and Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA).

FET Requirements for Enterprises

4. **[Mandatory]** All Enterprises must ensure that their employees³ and persons who work under their direction within the premises of their supermarkets⁴ (e.g. vendors) (collectively, “**Workers**”) undergo FET once every 7 days (the “**FET Requirement**”).
5. **[Mandatory]** After their Workers undergo FET, Enterprises shall verify⁵ that Worker’s test results.
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 MOH’s website at <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>.
7. To meet the FET Requirement, Enterprises are to conduct **Employer-Supervised Self-Swab** (“**ESSS**”) for their Workers. Details on how to conduct ESSS are set out in paragraphs 8 to 15 below. The costs for the ART test kits that will be used for ESSS and the training required for Enterprises that wish to conduct ESSS will be borne by the Government until 31 December 2021.

Requirements for Enterprises conducting ESSS

8. 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 tools such as video conferencing.
9. **[Mandatory]** To satisfy the FET Requirement, 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 has satisfied the training requirements set out under paragraph 10 below and properly performs his supervisory role⁶;
 - (3) ensure that Workers comply with the steps set out in paragraph 13 below and properly perform the swabs on themselves;
 - (4) ensure that the test results obtained by Workers from ESSS are uploaded on the Swab Registration System (“**SRS**”) in accordance with the requirements set out under paragraph 14 below; and

³ This refers to full and part time employees working in supermarket outlets

⁴ This refers to external vendors. External vendors include (i) cleaners (ii) customer-facing vendors (e.g. promoters) (iii) all other vendors stationed in supermarket outlets. This also includes business owners and outlet managers that work at the supermarket outlet.

⁵ 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.

⁶ This includes wearing adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting supervision.

- (5) ensure that the ART test kits used for ESSS are those that are set out on the Health Sciences Authority's website at https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/covid19_ARTselftests

- 9A. Where the Workers have obtained an "AG+" test result while conducting ESSS, Enterprises are recommended to strongly encourage them to undertake a follow-up ART test and to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>.

Training for Supervisors

10. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises 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 must ensure that he or she is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (i.e. they received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccination under Singapore's national vaccination programme and 14 days have passed from the time of the second dose⁷) before they can perform any supervisory role.
11. Enterprises conducting ESSS are advised to nominate at least two Workers per outlet to undergo training to be a Supervisor. The training provided by HMI will equip Supervisors with the knowledge needed to supervise the conduct 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 [VirtualCampus \(wizlearn.com\)](https://www.wizlearn.com) as soon as possible.
12. Upon successful booking, HMI will send a web link for supervisors 1-2 days before the actual training day, to attend the virtual training session. Please visit HMI's website at <https://hmi-ihs.com/supervisory-training-in-art-self-swab/> for latest details on the ESSS training.

Conduct of ESSS by Workers

13. **[Mandatory]** Enterprises are required to ensure that their Workers shall:
- (1) be supervised⁸ 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 ESSS⁹.

⁸ This can be done in person or virtually

⁹ 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

14. **[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 30 minutes** 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 3 to 5 of **Annex A**.
15. More details on the registration for an SRS account can be found in paragraph 17 below or at <https://www.enterprisesg.gov.sg/covid-19/sector-testing>.

Support for Enterprises conducting ESSS

16. The Government will be supplying ART kits to Enterprises until 31 December 2021. To order the ART kits, Enterprises are required to submit the relevant information using the form at <https://go.gov.sg/test-kit-ordering-supermarkets> (“**Order Form**”). The ART kits will be delivered to the address submitted by the enterprises, who should then distribute them to their workers and vendors at the outlets. **Enterprises shall only use the ART kits that are supplied by the Government for ESSS and shall not distribute, supply or sell them to any third-party.** ART kits must be used with prudence and companies need to ensure that one employee uses only one test kit for one cycle of RRT, unless the test result is AG invalid.
17. The information that is submitted on the Order Form will also be used by the relevant Government agencies to help Enterprises set up an SRS account. Once the SRS account has been set up, your POC will receive an email notification informing them about the creation of the SRS account and how to upload test results onto it.

Support from Enterprises

18. The fight against COVID-19 requires the collective effort of everyone in the community. We seek the support and understanding of all Enterprises during this period. We will continue to review and adjust the measures in line with the national posture for the health and well-being of the public and employees.
19. For more details on the FET regime, please visit <https://www.enterprisesg.gov.sg/covid-19/sector-testing>. For enquiries, please call the Enterprise Singapore Infoline at 6898 1800 or reach out to us at go.gov.sg/helloesg.

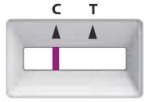
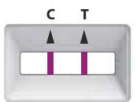
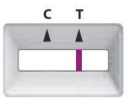


Annex A: FET Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS

ANNEX A

FET Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS

1. Workers will be required to undergo ART to satisfy the FET Requirement. ART kits will return one of three possible test results:
 - (1) negative or “**AG-**”;
 - (2) positive or “**AG+**”;
 - (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 as part of ESSS, Image 1 below illustrates how the different test results will be shown on the SD Bio Sensor ART kit (which will be the ART kit distributed to Enterprises). Please note that the lines on the test kit cassette will appear in 15 – 30 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 during the Checking Window onto SRS.

Image 1: Test results on SD Bio Sensor

| Negative Test Result (‘AG-’) | Positive Test Result (‘AG+’) | Invalid Test Result (‘AG Invalid’) |
|--|---|--|
|  <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>No</u> marking at ‘T’</p> |  <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Bold</u> marking at ‘T’</p> |  <p><u>No</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Bold</u> marking at ‘T’</p> |
| |  <p><u>Bold</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>Faint</u> marking at ‘T’</p> |  <p><u>No</u> marking at ‘C’ and <u>No</u> marking at ‘T’</p> |

4. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS and uses an ART kit other than the SD Bio Sensor ART 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.

5. If the Enterprise had wrongly submitted a “AG+” result for a Worker on SRS, Enterprises must use this form to submit the details and updated result of the Worker - <https://go.gov.sg/artpositivenoncompliance>
6. 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 <https://www.moh.gov.sg/>