#### **VACCINATE OR REGULAR TEST REGIME**

1. With effect from 1 October 2021, enterprises in or serving the maritime sector ("Enterprises")¹ are required to implement the Vaccinate or Regular Test ("VoRT") regime. Enterprises must comply with the mandatory requirements that are set out in this notice. For avoidance of doubt, the mandatory requirements are specified in the paragraphs below prefaced with the words '[Mandatory]'

# **Background**

- 2. The purpose of the VoRT regime is to increase the vaccination rate among the selected sectors and to empower Enterprises to detect possible infections among unvaccinated persons, so as to keep their workplaces and community safe.
- 3. Under the VoRT regime, Enterprises are required to ensure that all their employees and persons who work under their direction (e.g. contractors and subcontractors), or at their premises, are Fully Vaccinated or undergo regular testing if they are not. The VoRT regime will apply concurrently with any Polymerase Chain Reaction Rostered Routine Testing ("PCR RRT") or Fast and Easy Testing Rostered Routine Testing ("FET RRT") regime that these persons are currently subject to (see paragraph 7 below for more details).
- 4. The VoRT 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 operations. Checks will be conducted by enforcement teams to verify if Enterprises have complied with the mandatory requirements set out in this notice.

# **VoRT Requirements for Enterprises**

5. [Mandatory] All Enterprises must ensure that all their employees² and persons who work under their direction or at their premises that fall within the categories set out in Table 1 below³ (collectively, "Workers") are (A) Fully Vaccinated (as defined in paragraph 8 below) or (B) undergo a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction Test ("PCR") or COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test ("ART")⁴ twice a week ("VoRT Requirement") and on separate days within that week. For the avoidance of doubt, if an Enterprise consists of only one self-employed person, he or she must comply with the VoRT Requirement as well.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Enterprises include self-employed persons and legal entities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This includes both full and part time employees.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This includes contractors, subcontractors, employees of contractors and subcontractors who work at the workplace (e.g. cleaners).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The ART test <u>must</u> be carried out (1) by an approved test provider under the Infectious Diseases (Antigen Rapid Test Providers); (2) via ESSS (refer to paragraphs 14 to 22 below); or (3) by a QTC (refer to paragraph 13 below). For avoidance of doubt, unsupervised self-swabs by Workers are not recognised.

#### **Table 1: VoRT Requirements for Enterprises**

#### Workers

- 1. Any individual who is required to go onboard vessels<sup>5</sup> in the Port of Singapore
- 2. Employees<sup>6</sup> of (i) Port Operators<sup>7</sup>; (ii) essential contractors<sup>8</sup> of Port Operators; (iii) Pilotage Service Provider<sup>9</sup>
- 3. Essential contractors of Port Operators staying in the Port Operators' dormitories
- 4. Crew deployed on board harbour craft<sup>10</sup>, who have a shore-based residence in Singapore
- 5. Workers at Designated Holding Facilities<sup>11</sup>, land transport drivers and launch boat operators<sup>12</sup> facilitating crew change
- 6. Employees and essential contractors<sup>13</sup> of the Regional Ferry Terminal Operator<sup>14</sup> working in the protected area<sup>15</sup> within the regional ferry terminal or who will come into contact with passengers and/or baggage at the regional ferry terminal, as well as shore-based personnel<sup>16</sup> who will come into contact with passengers and/or baggage at the regional ferry terminal
- 7. Crew deployed on board harbour craft, whose registered residential address is a harbour craft
- 8. Crew deployed on board MPA licensed "SZH" Pleasure Craft<sup>17</sup> doing charter
- 9. Crew on board Off-Port Limits (OPL) Vessels
- 10. Crew on board regional ferries operated by Regional Ferry Service Operators<sup>18</sup>
- 11. Tuas Port workers carrying out reclamation works
- 12. Any individual entering the workplace<sup>19</sup> of Port Operators and Pilotage Service Provider
- 13. Workers (e.g cleaning staff, security guards) at Marina South Pier, West Coast Pier and Changi Point Ferry Terminal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> For individuals who go onboard vessels not more than 2 times a month, if they are not already on a 3D FET RRT, they are required to take (i) an ART test within 24 hours prior to boarding, (ii) an ART test within 12 hours upon disembarking the vessel, and (iii) undergo subsequent ART tests on day 3 and day 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Such as lashing workers, stowage workers, stevedores, safety liaison officers, lifting supervisors, port operations officers, Workplace, Safety and Health (WSH) officers and marine pilots.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> PSA Corporation Pte Ltd and Jurong Port Pte Ltd.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Companies that Port Operators contract to carry out essential port terminal operations (e.g. Lashing, Stevedoring).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> PSA Marine Pte Ltd.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> A vessel licensed under the MPA (Harbour Craft) Regulations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Copthorne King's Hotel Singapore. Seacare Hotel and Hotel Re!.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> At Marina South Pier and West Coast Pier.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Entities that the Regional Ferry Terminal Operator contract with to carry out essential regional ferry terminal operations and services (cleaning, security, porterage etc).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Singapore Cruise Centre Pte Ltd.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Premises in the regional ferry terminal declared in a protected area order to be a protected area under the Infrastructure Protection Act, which may include, arrival/departure halls, jetties/berths, security screening and baggage sorting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Any individual who is not a passenger or member of the crew of the vessel/ferry and (a) is delivering goods or performing services connected to the business of the vessel/ferry; (b) is providing any service to any passenger or member of the crew of the vessel/ferry onboard the vessel/ferry; or (c) is effecting the arrest or detention of a vessel or service of any other legal process, whether or not a contractor or an employee or agent of the owner or agent of the relevant vessel/ferry.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> As defined in the MPA (Pleasure Craft) Regulations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Entity licensed by MPA to provide regional ferry services under MPA (Port) Regulations 63G.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Such as canteens, workshops, port terminals and marine services base.

- 6. Enterprises should guide their Workers who are not Fully Vaccinated to maintain a 3- 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).
- 7. Enterprises whose Workers are subject to PCR RRT or FET RRT regimes can recognise any PCR test or ART undergone by those Workers under those regimes during a given week as counting towards the Enterprises' testing requirement for those Workers (if they are not Fully Vaccinated) under the VoRT Requirement for that same week. For example, if an Enterprise has a Worker who is not Fully Vaccinated that underwent a PCR test/ART as part of the RRT regime once during a week, the Enterprise is allowed to recognise that Worker's PCR test/ART as satisfying one of the two weekly testing requirements for that Worker under the VoRT Requirement.
- 8. For the purposes of the VoRT Requirement and this notice, a Worker is considered to be "Fully Vaccinated" for the periods set out in the third column of <u>Table 2</u> below if he or she fulfils the relevant requirements for those periods as set out in the corresponding second columns.

**Table 2: Fully Vaccinated** 

Category		Requirement(s)		Period
(1)	Vaccinated with no prior history of COVID-19 infection	(a) (b) (c)	Individual must not have had a history of COVID-19 infection; Individual must have been vaccinated against a COVID-19 infection by the administration of the appropriate regimen of any approved vaccine <sup>20</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.
(2)	Recovered from COVID- 19 infection without prior vaccination	a. b.	Individual must not have been vaccinated against COVID-19 infection; and Individual must have recovered from COVID-19 infection.	Starting the day the individual first tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 via a 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</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;

<sup>(5)</sup> 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. Please refer to the First Schedule of the Infectious Diseases (Mass Gathering Testing for Coronavirus Disease 2019 Regulations 2021) for the most updated information on the vaccination regimen and approved vaccines.

				ending 270 days
				later.
(3)	Recovered	(a)	Individual must have recovered from COVID-	Starting 14 days
	from COVID-		19 infection	after the day the
	19 infection	(b)	Individual must have been vaccinated against	individual was so
	and		a COVID-19 infection by the administration of	vaccinated and
	subsequently		one dose of any approved vaccine <sup>21</sup> ; and	ending 365 days
	vaccinated	(c)	14 days or more have elapsed after the day	later.
			the individual was so vaccinated.	

- 9. [Mandatory] When verifying if a Worker is Fully Vaccinated, Enterprises shall:
  - (1) only recognise the proofs of vaccination as set out in **Annex A**; and
  - (2) regard Workers who decline or are unable to produce the proofs of vaccination as set out in <u>Annex A</u> as being <u>not</u> Fully Vaccinated for the purposes of the VoRT Requirement and this notice.
- 10. **[Mandatory]** If a Worker is not Fully Vaccinated and has undergone PCR test/ART as part of the Enterprises' VoRT Requirement, Enterprises shall verify<sup>22</sup> that Worker's PCR/ART test result before uploading the result in the Swab Registration System ("SRS").
- 11. 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 the Ministry of Health's ("MOH") website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>.
- 12. To meet the twice weekly testing requirements for Workers that are not Fully Vaccinated under the VoRT Requirement, Enterprises should conduct Employer-Supervised Self-Swab ("ESSS") for their Workers. Details on how to conduct ESSS are set out in paragraphs 14 to 20 below.
- 13. For small businesses and freelancers who are not able to organise their own ESSS, they may work with the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) to go to the Quick Test Centres ("QTC(s)") for their tests. For this group, the costs for the services and ART test kits that will be used at the QTC will also be borne by the Government until 31 December 2021. Other groups which can conduct ESSS but prefer to have their Workers undergo FET RRT at the QTCs, will need to pay for the services and test kits.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Please refer to footnote S/N. 20.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</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.

## Requirements for Enterprises that conduct ESSS

- 14. ESSS involves Workers using an ART kit and performing a swab on themselves under the supervision of a supervisor ("**Supervisor**"). The swabbing and supervision can be done either at the workplace or virtually using digital tools such as video conferencing.
- 15. **[Mandatory]** 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 properly performs his supervisory role<sup>23</sup>;
  - (3) ensure that Workers comply with the steps set out in paragraph 19 below and properly perform the swabs on themselves;
  - (4) ensure that the test results obtained by Workers from ESSS are uploaded on the SRS in accordance with the requirements set out under paragraph 20 below; and
  - (5) ensure that the ART test kits used for ESSS are those that are set out on the Health Sciences Authority's website at <a href="https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/covid19\_ARTselftests">https://www.hsa.gov.sg/consumer-safety/articles/covid19\_ARTselftests</a>
- 15A. Where Workers have obtained 'AG+' test results while conducting ESSS, Enterprises are recommended to strongly encourage them to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>. The follow-up ART test under Protocol 2 does not need to be carried out under supervision and the results do not need to be uploaded to SRS.

## Requirements for Supervisors

- 16. **[Mandatory]** If a Supervisor is above 50 years old, Enterprises must ensure that he or she is Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19<sup>24</sup> (refer to paragraph 8 for the definition of Fully Vaccinated) before he or she can perform any supervisory role.
- 17. Enterprises that are conducting ESSS are advised to nominate at least two Workers per outlet to perform the role of the Supervisor. Supervisors are no longer required to be formally trained by the HMI Institute of Health Sciences Pte. Ltd. but they should be familiar with how ART kits are to be correctly used, including the wearing of adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting in-person supervision.
- 18. This paragraph is no longer applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> This includes wearing adequate personal protective equipment and maintaining appropriate infection prevention control procedures while conducting supervision and being familiar with how ART kits are to be correctly used.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Enterprises can consider asking Supervisors to verify their vaccination status via TraceTogether.

## Conduct of ESSS by Workers

- 19. [Mandatory] Enterprises are required to ensure that their Workers shall:
  - (1) be supervised<sup>25</sup> 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 ESSS<sup>26</sup>.
- 19A. Where Workers have obtained an "AG+" test result while conducting ESSS, Enterprises are recommended to strongly encourage them to abide by the prevailing management postures for such cases that are set out on MOH's website at <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>. The follow-up ART test under Protocol 2 does not need to be carried out under supervision and the results do not need to be uploaded to SRS.

# Uploading of Test Results onto SRS

- 20. **[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 12 hours 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 4 to 6 of **Annex B**.
- 21. More details on how Enterprises can register for a SRS account can be found at https://go.gov.sg/7kcjrn.

Annex A: Recognised Proofs of Vaccination

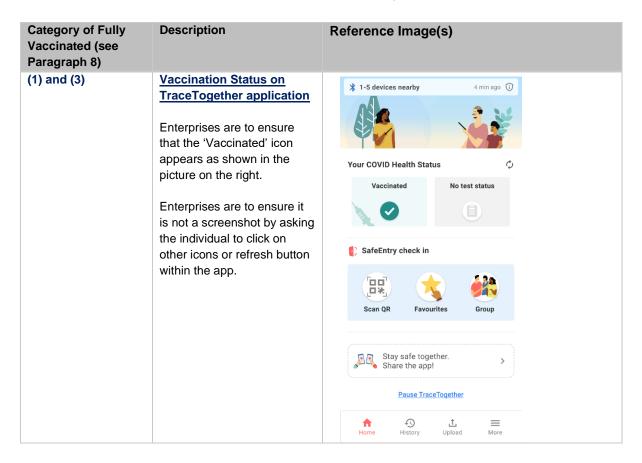
Annex B: ART Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> This can be done in person or virtually.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Used test kits should be double-bagged and tied before disposing them in closed bins (e.g. pedal bins).

# **Recognised Proofs of Vaccination**

Enterprises can establish how many workers are Fully Vaccinated by checking their vaccination status using the most updated 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).



## Reference Image(s) **Category of Fully** Description Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8) (1) and (3) Vaccination Status on **HealthHub application Vaccination Records** Enterprises are to ensure that the 'Vaccinated' icon as shown in the picture on the right. Enterprises are to ensure it is not a screenshot by asking Vaccinated the individual to click on other icons within the app. Effective starting 14 Jun 2021 COVID-19 PFIZER-BIONTECH/ **COMIRNATY (A-COV)** 31 MAY 2021 RAFFLES MEDICAL VACCINATION CENTRE -TECK GHEE CC RAFFLES MEDICAL VACCINATION CENTRE -TECK GHEE CC View more > (1) and (3) **Physical Vaccination** Card/Slip COVID-19 VACCINATION CARD Information about COVID-19 Vaccination The COVID-19 vaccine you have received consists of two doses. The second dose must be completed to achieve the best possible protection, and for the protection to be as long-lasting as possible. MINISTRY OF HEALTH Enterprises are to only accept original the hardcopy card/slip. COVID-19 VACCINATION CARD The vaccine has been assessed to be safe for use. However, just like other vaccines, you may experience some side effects such as headache, body aches, tiredness and soreness at the injection site, or fever. These usually get better after 1-3 days and may be a sign that your immune system is making a protective response against COVID-19. PERSONAL PARTICULARS Enterprises are to ensure that the card/slip belongs to the individual by checking against her his Government-issued photo identification. Enterprises 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)). Note. Hard-copy and digital overseas vaccination certs

are not recognised.

#### **Category of Fully** Description Reference Image(s) Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8) **Discharge Memo** (2) MINISTRY OF HEALTH Enterprises are to only accept the original hardcopy memo. DISCHARGE MEMO Name of Patient: Enterprises are to ensure that NRIC/FIN: the memo belongs to the checking individual by To whom it may concern, against his / her 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 was discharged on \_\_\_\_\_. Government-issued photo identification. 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> To ensure that the duration of [Please indicate N.A if not applicable] The abovementioned patient has also been given a leave of absence<sup>1</sup> to rest and the activity is within the 270 recover at his/her place of residence until days exemption period calculated from the date of the 1st PCR test. For any queries, please contact the MOH Emergency Line at 1800 333 9999 or email to moh qsm@moh.gov.sg. Older versions of memo that do not indicate the exemption DR DERRICK HENG DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL SERVICES period or the date of the PCR PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP positive test result will not be accepted. e-Discharge Memo (2) Government agencies communicate via .gov.sg websites The unique link to the e-Discharge Memo will be sent via SMS. **DISCHARGE MEMO** Ensure it is not a screenshot Name of Patient: by asking the individual to click on other links within the NRIC/FIN: \_\_\_ memo. Dear Sir/Mdm. Enterprises are to ensure that This memo indicates that you are discharged from your \_ . After your the duration of the activity is Isolation Order as of 12pm on \_\_\_\_\_ discharge, you are deemed no longer infectious. the 270 within davs exemption period. You are exempted from pre-event testing (PET) for 270 days after your positive test result until\_\_\_\_ \_ and are allowed to enter premises and venues (that are subjected to PET entry checks) without any further PCR or ART tests (https://go.gov.sg/vdsmminfo) similar to that for vaccinated individuals. You may also use your Isolation Order SMS with your end date as proof of discharge. For more information, you may wish to visit covid.gov.sg. If you have further questions, contact the MOH COVID-19 General Enquiries Hotline at 1800 333 9999, or email moh\_qsm@moh.gov.sg Thank you. PUBLIC HEALTH GROUP MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Category of Fully Vaccinated (see Paragraph 8)	Description	Reference Image(s)
(2)	Enterprises are to only accept the original hardcopy memo.  Enterprises are to ensure that the memo belongs to the individual by checking against his / her Government-issued photo identification.	PRE-EVENT TESTING (PET) EXEMPTION NOTICE  Full Name: (as per NRIC/FIN/Passport)  NRIC/FIN/Passport Number: XXXX567A  Country of Passport Issue (only for foreigners without FIN):  To whom it may concern,  This is to certify that the abovementioned first tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) via a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test* on <a href="date">date</a> . He/She is exempted from Pre-Event Testing (PET) till <a href="date">date</a> (inclusive).  2. For further details, please contact [Name of Clinic (and Branch if applicable), email, phone number].  Thank you.  Stamp/ Signature/Date  Name:  Designation: Clinic Name (and Branch if applicable):  * Recovered travellers/ returning SCs/PRs with overseas PCR+ results with local S+ result must provide GP with proof of overseas PCR+ result for the issuance of the PET Exemption Notice.

# **ART Test Results and the Management of Workers after ESSS**

- 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 until they obtain an "**AG+**" or "**AG-**" test result.
- 3. If a Worker undergoes ART at a QTC, they will receive a SMS stating their test result within 1-2 hours. Alternatively, the test results of these Workers can also be found on their TraceTogether or HealthHub phone applications.
- 4. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS, <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 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. Enterprises shall only upload the test results that are shown on the test kit cassette <u>during</u> the Checking Window onto the SRS.

Image 1: Test results on the Abbott Panbio and SD Bio Sensor ART test kit

Negative Test Result	Positive Test Result	Invalid Test Result
('AG-')	('AG+')	('AG Invalid')
C T	СТ	C T
<u>Bold</u> marking at 'C'	<u>Bold</u> marking at 'C'	<u>No</u> marking at 'C'
and	and	and
<u>No</u> marking at 'T'	<u>Bold</u> marking at 'T'	<u>Bold</u> marking at 'T'
	Bold marking at 'C' and Faint marking at 'T'	No marking at 'C' and No marking at 'T'

- 5. If a Worker undergoes ART as part of ESSS and uses an ART test kit other than the SD Bio Sensor and Abbott Panbio ART test 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. However, only HSA-approved ART kits are to be used.
- 6. If the Enterprise had incorrectly submitted an "AG-/AG+" result for a Worker on SRS, Enterprises are to email to AskSRS@hpb.gov.sg with the below information:
  - a. NRIC
  - b. Name
  - c. Date of VoRT test affected by erroneous result
  - d. Company/ Employer for VoRT
  - e. Company/Employer's email address
  - f. Final result to be displayed (AG+ or AG-)
- 7. 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 <a href="https://www.moh.gov.sg/">https://www.moh.gov.sg/</a>