

Dear Key Appointment Holders and EA Personnel,

On 16 Dec 2021, the Government announced that from 20 Dec 2021, travellers residing in hotels[1] who: (a) test positive for COVID-19 on a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test; (b) test positive for COVID-19 on an Antigen Rapid Test (ART); or (c) are identified as a close contact of a COVID-19 case and receive a Health Risk Warning (HRW) [should recover or isolate in their room by default](#).

2. These changes will more closely align recovery protocols for travellers who test positive for COVID-19 with the protocols for local community cases. They apply to all travellers, including migrant domestic workers (MDWs)/ confinement nannies (CNs) who enter Singapore either under the Vaccinated Travel Lane (VTL) or Work Pass Holder General Lane (WPHGL) and fall under these scenarios:

a) Travellers who test positive on a COVID-19 Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test will undergo recovery in their room by default, with access to telemedicine support.

- Travellers who test positive will receive a notification SMS with instructions to complete a formSG at go.gov.sg/cplusform. They should remain isolated and await further instructions from Ministry of Health (MOH).
- They will be issued with an Isolation Order (IO) (which supersedes any testing requirements they were originally subject to) for 10 days if fully vaccinated, or 14 days if partially vaccinated or unvaccinated. They can be discharged without further tests thereafter.
- Travellers who are not at hotels but at residential units such as the employer's residence should continue to recover from where they are. They should not check into hotels. Those residing in non-SDF hotels who wish to undergo recovery at their personal residence may do so by informing the hotel who will seek MOH's assistance to arrange for transport. They should not make their own transport arrangements.
- Those who require medical attention or whose accommodation is unsuitable for recovery will be transferred to an appropriate care facility. They should inform MOH at go.gov.sg/cplusform and MOH will arrange for their transfer.

b) Travellers who test positive on an Antigen Rapid Test (ART) will isolate in their room by default.

- Travellers under the VTL and those who have travel history in the last 10 days who test positive at any point during their [7-day ART](#) regime must self-isolate and undergo a confirmatory PCR test at a Combined Test Centre and can resume their normal activities if they test negative. If they test positive, they should follow the protocols listed in (a).

c) Travellers who are identified as a close contact of a COVID-19 case and issued a Health Risk Warning (HRW) will isolate and test themselves with an ART on the same day (Day 1).

- They should upload their Day 1 results onto go.gov.sg/agsubmit and can resume normal activities for the day if they test negative. For the remaining Days 2 to 7, they are to undergo daily ART and can resume their normal activities if they test negative. They can end this testing regime if they test negative on Day 7.
- If they test positive at any time, they should self-isolate, re-test after 72 hours with an ART and may resume normal activities if they test negative. If they test positive, they should repeat their ART at least 24 hours apart and only resume normal activities once the result is negative.

- If they become unwell at any point, they should seek medical attention immediately.

3. Travellers residing in the same hotel room as travellers who test positive for COVID-19 will similarly receive a HRW and should move to a separate place of accommodation (e.g. another room in the hotel) as soon as possible.

4. There will however be a differentiated approach for confirmed/suspected Omicron cases:

a) Confirmed and suspected cases will be conveyed to a designated care and isolation facility for recovery; and

b) Identified close contacts will be issued a Quarantine Order and serve quarantine at a designated facility. They will have to undergo PCR tests at the start and end of their quarantine.

5. EAs acting on behalf of employers should take note of the changes and its implications on MDWs/CNs entering Singapore, in particular:

a) Plan for suitable accommodation that allows MDWs/CNs to undergo recovery or isolation in their room, if the need arises; and

b) Costs associated with recovery, testing and treatment, including extended stay in hotels or at care facilities, will continue to be borne by the employers. Employers are encouraged to check with their medical insurance providers on the types of treatment expenses covered under the medical insurance policy for the MDW.

6. Please make sure that MDWs/CNs undergoing recovery or isolation in their room are aware that they should comply with the stipulated isolation and testing protocols. They must not leave their rooms or use any shared facilities and should contact the hotlines[2] provided if they require assistance. Those who breach their IO by leaving their room will have committed an offence under the Infectious Diseases Act and may face enforcement action.

7. For more information, please visit go.gov.sg/sgsafetravel.

8. Let's continue to keep Singapore safe.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Teoh
Commissioner for Employment Agencies
Ministry of Manpower

[1] These include Stay-Home Notice (SHN)-Dedicated Facilities (SDFs), non-SDF hotels and other managed residences such as serviced apartments.

[2] Persons who require medical help can reach out to Telemedicine doctors at <https://go.gov.sg/telemedicineproviders>. If they are experiencing shortness of breath, heart palpitations, chest pain, or fever for more than 3 days, they should call 995 immediately. For further enquiries, they may contact 6874 4939.