

4 February 2022

ADVISORY ON CONTINUED ADHERENCE TO SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES AND PLANS FOR BUSINESS CONTINUITY

Having a high number of COVID-19 cases in our workforce could disrupt business operations. Even though infected workers could have mild or no symptoms, health protocols would require them to be isolated, and thus absenteeism rate could potentially rise sharply. As such, businesses, especially those which provide essential services, should continue to (i) adhere to existing safe management measures (SMMs) and (ii) ensure the robustness of their business continuity.

Summary of recommended measures	
(i) Adhere to existing safe management measures (SMMs)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Comply with SMM practices at workplaces and worksites 2) Vaccinate the Workforce 3) Continue with Fast and Easy Rostered Routine Testing (FET RRT)
(ii) Suggested additional measures for Business Continuity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4) Implement Business Continuity Plans (BCP), such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Split-team arrangement • Diversifying suppliers and manpower • Implementing periodic testing regime for workers not under FET RRT regime

Adhere to existing safe management measures (SMM)

Comply with SMM practices at workplaces and worksites

2 The industry is reminded to strictly adhere to worksite SMM as outlined in [BCA's Oct 16 Circular](#) and [COVID-Safe Restart Criteria](#). SMM continues to be the key line of

defence against spread of COVID-19 in worksites. All sites are reminded to ensure proper access control and only allow cleared personnel to access the sites.

3 Please also continue to ensure that all personnel have their safety PPEs (e.g. masks) on at all times and to practise safe distancing during their work.

Vaccinate the Workforce

4 Vaccination, especially boosters, retain substantial protection against the Omicron variant, and will help enhance the workforce's resilience against COVID-19. We urge employers in the industry to encourage your workers to go for vaccination and booster shots when offered or scheduled, to minimise any impact on the productivity and health of the workers.

5 The Ministry of Manpower has announced the updated vaccination policies at workplaces. This would also apply to all construction worksites and supply work premises. From 15 January 2022 onwards,

- Only employees who are fully vaccinated, certified to be medically ineligible or have recovered from COVID-19 within 180 days, can return to the workplace.
- Unvaccinated employees including those who have recovered from COVID-19 beyond 180 days will not be allowed to return to the workplace even if they did Pre-Event Testing (PET) with a negative result.
- Partially vaccinated employees who have recovered from COVID-19 beyond 180 days as at 1 January 2022; and partially vaccinated employees, who have never have had COVID-19 if they did PET with a valid negative result, are allowed at the workplace up to 31 Jan 2022. After 31 Jan 2022, they can only return to their workplace after being fully vaccinated.

For more information, please refer to MOM's [updated advisory on COVID-19 vaccination at the workplace](#).

Continue with Fast and Easy Rostered Routine Testing (FET RRT)

6 The current testing regime (i.e. FET RRT) can help in early detection and containment of the COVID-19 transmission. The industry is reminded to continue adhering to the supervised FET RRT requirements and upload their ART results to

SRSV2 or FWMOMCare. This would allow us to minimise the likelihood of having major worksite outbreaks that would adversely disrupt site productivity.

7 Firms with workers not under the mandatory testing regime are encouraged to plan and manage a regime internally.

Ensure the robustness of their business continuity

Implement Business Continuity Plans (BCP)

8 Firms are strongly encouraged to implement BCP to minimise disruption to operations and ensure that business operations are not disrupted during any potential COVID-19 outbreak. Some good examples of BCP include:

- a) Adopting a split-team arrangement and minimising deployment to multiple workplaces;
- b) Having diversified suppliers of materials and/or manpower; and
- c) Implementing periodic testing regime for workers not under FET RRT regime.

9 We seek your continued support and cooperation to keep our workplaces safe.

10 Please feel free to contact us via our online feedback form at <http://www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform> or hotline at 1800-3425 222 if you need further clarifications.

Yours faithfully,

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