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UPDATED VACCINATION POLICIES AND INGESTION OF OVERSEAS VACCINATION RECORDS FOR MIGRANT WORKERS IN SINGAPORE

The Ministry of Manpower Singapore issued an Advisory last 24 November 2021 updating the vaccination policies and ingestion of overseas vaccination records for migrant workers. The subject advisory provides for the obligation of the employers and below is the detailed information:

1. Starting 8 December 2021, all COVID-19 patients who are eligible for vaccination, but choose not to be vaccinated, will have to bear the costs of their COVID-19 medical bills. This policy will also apply to migrant workers who remain unvaccinated by choice.
2. Employers are required to pay for the COVID-19 medical treatment for their unvaccinated workers and are enjoined to check with their medical insurance provider if their existing medical insurance policies for migrant workers cover medical treatment for COVID-19.

Unvaccinated migrant workers will not be allowed to enter worksites from January 2022

3. From 1 January 2022, only employees who are fully vaccinated or are within 270 days from their date of COVID-19 infection, can enter the worksite. Unvaccinated employees will not be allowed to enter worksites unless they have tested negative for COVID-19. This is applicable to Singaporean Citizens, Permanent Residents and all work pass holders.

Inclusion of Sinovac-CoronaVac into National Vaccination Programme (NVP)

4. The Sinovac-CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine has been included in the National Vaccination Programme of Singapore. Given the relatively lower vaccine efficacy of Sinovac-CoronaVac compared with mRNA vaccines, one should take note of the following guidance on the different vaccine regime protocols:
 - a. If the migrant workers volunteer for the mRNA vaccines, they only need to take two doses of the MRA vaccines to complete their vaccination regime. For workers who are given the Sinovac-CoronaVac or Sinopharm vaccines, they need to receive three doses of the vaccine to be considered as fully vaccinated.
 - b. If the migrant workers have taken two doses of the Sinovac-CoronaVac or Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccines, they will be considered as fully vaccinated



for 4 months after the second dose, or until 31 December 2021, whichever is later. Employers are required to make the necessary arrangements for their workers to complete their third dose of Sinovac-CoronaVac, Sinopharm or any mRNA vaccine at least 90 days from their second dose to be considered as fully vaccinated individuals from 1 January 2022.

Ingestion of Overseas Vaccination Records for Migrant Workers

5. If the workers have been vaccinated overseas with the Ministry of Health's (MOH) approved list of COVID-19 vaccines, they should have their vaccination records ingested onto the National Immunisation Registry (NIR) before 1 January 2022. Workers may refer to the FAQs for a step-by-step guide.
6. For further queries, please contact the Singapore Ministry of Manpower at www.mom.gov.sg/efeedback.

Frequently Asked Questions may be accessed here: https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/advisory-to-employers-updated-vaccination-policies-for-migrant-workers?fbclid=IwAR17cPHtkJI5DZphJPY-y7zIIazs_WGHTBNS6J6bMX5jZs-O5t1cwUANFU

For the information and guidance of all concerned.


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Administrator

9 December 2021

Source: Ministry of Manpower Singapore - https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19/advisory-to-employers-updated-vaccination-policies-for-migrant-workers?fbclid=IwAR17cPHtkJI5DZphJPY-y7zIIazs_WGHTBNS6J6bMX5jZs-O5t1cwUANFU

