



GI / 16 / 2024

July 10, 2024

To: Chief Executive Officers / Human Resource Managers

**Changes to COVID-19 Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)
in line with Living with COVID-19**

COVID-19 cases show significant decline from 17,256 cases in epidemiology week 1/2024 to 3,810 cases in epidemiology week 26/2024 with zero deaths in epidemiology week 26/2024. Following the decline in cases, the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MoH) on July 5, 2024 had announced that **Malaysia is currently in the transition phase of living with COVID-19** and **updated the following standard operating procedures (SOP) which are set to be enforced effective July 15, 2024:**

1. **Home Surveillance Order (HSO)**

- a. COVID-19 positive individuals will be treated the same way as any other respiratory infections and will no longer be given HSO.
- b. COVID-19 positive individuals are encouraged to stay at home, avoid close interaction with other individuals and exercise public health precautionary measures if there is any necessity to go out.
- c. COVID-19 positive individuals should also seek treatment if symptoms worsen.
- d. Close contacts of COVID-19 positive individuals are encouraged to monitor their symptoms and health and seek treatment if the symptoms worsen.
- e. COVID-19 positive individuals will no longer be required to update COVID-19 self-test results on MySejahtera.

2. **Wearing Face Mask**

- a. Confirmed positive COVID-19 individuals are encouraged to wear face mask, avoid crowded places and minimise social interactions.
- b. Individuals with symptoms such as cough and flu are encouraged to wear face mask, especially while in healthcare facilities, crowded places and spaces with poor ventilation.
- c. Healthcare workers are also encouraged to wear face mask in healthcare facilities, especially during dealing with patients.

Cases are expected to increase from time to time and members are strongly encouraged to live with COVID-19 with adaptation of preventive measures such as:

- a. frequent washing of hands with soap and water or sanitiser;
- b. wearing face mask, especially for high-risk individuals, symptomatic individuals or when in an enclosed or public area; and
- c. take COVID-19 booster shot, especially for high-risk groups.

In view of the revised SOP, employers should advise their employees who are COVID-19 positive to obtain a confirmation of their status from a medical practitioner including whether the employee is certified medically unfit or requires hospitalisation. Where applicable, employers should allow their employees to work from home if such a policy has been established. In the event where an employee has exhausted his medical leave, then the leave can be treated as unpaid medical leave.

The [MoH press statement is attached for reference](#).

Further enquiries: Kindly contact **Ms Nurhafizah Ngatiran / Ms Hema Thiruchelvam** of the **Business Environment Division** at Business_Environment@fmm.org.my OR **Mr K. Kesavan**, **FMM HR/IR Advisor** at hradvisory@fmm.org.my or **Tel: 03-6286 7200**.

HT/KK/nn

Hema Thiruchelvam

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hema' followed by a stylized flourish.

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