



Media Release

Detection of COVID-19 cases through proactive testing

Changi General Hospital remains safe for visitation

Singapore, 4 September 2021 – As the virus becomes endemic in the community, routine surveillance is the new normal in the early detection of COVID-19 infection. Through proactive testing by Changi General Hospital (CGH), 14 staff, the large majority from outsourced service partners, were confirmed to have contracted the virus as of 3 September. These cases are not linked to the earlier cluster.

These staff have their workplaces at the hospital's basement level and do not have direct interaction with patients in their course of work. Almost all are fully vaccinated, and all had adhered to safe management measures. None of them are critically ill, largely due to their vaccination. We will continue to support and care for them.

The hospital is committed to the safety of our staff, patients and visitors. Precautionary measures such as thorough cleaning and disinfection of the relevant areas have been completed, and infection control protocols are in place on CGH Campus.

We are actively tracing and testing to ring-fence the infections. Swab testing has been largely completed for CGH staff who work at the basement level. As an added precautionary measure, all CGH staff including outsourced service partners will undergo a one-time self-administered antigen rapid test (ART) as an added precautionary measure. This is on top of the Rostered Routine Testing (RRT) regime established for patient-fronting staff.

Staff identified as close contacts have been placed on quarantine orders or on leave of absence pending further investigations. CGH is working closely with the Ministry of Health and epidemiological investigations are ongoing for the positive cases.

Clinical areas are not affected and the hospital remains safe for clinical appointments and ward visitation, with adherence to prevailing visitation guidelines. For more information, please visit www.cgh.com.sg

In transitioning to a COVID-19 resilient nation, the hospital's proactive and preventive surveillance programme plays a vital role in detecting and ring-fencing infections early to minimise the risk of transmission and keep patients, visitors and staff safe. Those in the community who have not opted for COVID-19 vaccination are strongly encouraged to do so, as vaccination is proven to minimise the severity of the infection and will add to the protection of the whole nation.

The CGH care team remains committed and ready to support and care for our patients. We will continue to closely monitor the situation and review and reinforce current measures as the need arises to keep patients and staff safe.

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About Changi General Hospital

Changi General Hospital (CGH) is an academic medical institution caring for more than 1 million people in Singapore. A tertiary referral centre with over 1,000 beds, CGH is committed to medical research and education, clinical innovation and care for patients through a comprehensive range of medical specialties and services. Helmed by a multi-disciplinary, dedicated team of healthcare professionals, CGH consistently delivers positive health outcomes for patients. For more information, visit www.cgh.com.sg