

Rector's Office Instruction on the Implementation of the New Infection Control Regulations

On Nov. 24th, 2021, the Federal Government's regulations to combat the Corona pandemic will go into effect. The following lists the regulations and explains how they will be implemented at OVGU. The Rector's Office encourages employees to protect themselves and others by getting vaccinated. This is the only way to maintain face-to-face teaching and research activities on campus. Even though we already have a very large number of vaccinated persons at OVGU, offers are again to be made available on campus and by the company physician. This offer continues to be directed at those interested in first and second and, in addition, booster vaccinations. Vaccination opportunities also exist in [public places](#) and can be taken advantage of. The time for vaccination is generally considered working time.

Strict testing requirements apply to unvaccinated persons. Legal regulations are enforced at OVGU.

3G rule in the workplace

For OVGU, this means that the 3G rule will be introduced for all workplaces. Previously, only faculty and staff in service areas were required to prove their 3G status.

Now, a new Section 28 b (1) of the Infection Protection Act (IfSG) stipulates that workplaces may only be entered if staff is vaccinated, recovered or tested and carry proof of vaccination, proof of recovery or official negative test proof (rapid antigen test not older than 24 hours or PCR test not older than 48 hours).

The proof is mandatory via the [OVGU pass](#).

Entering the university buildings without a green OVGU passport is only permitted in order to take advantage of a test offer at the [OVGU test center](#) immediately before starting work.

The OVGU offers all employees who have not recovered or been vaccinated a test at the OVGU Test Center 2 times per week. There, the corresponding test result is registered in the OVGU pass.

The OVGU test centers are located in building 05 (with online appointment, opening hours Mon-Fri from 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) and in the URZ, building 26.1, left window (without appointment, opening hours Mon-Wed from 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Thurs-Fri from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.). For all other work days, non-vaccinated employees or employees deemed not to have recovered must obtain a test elsewhere (e.g., citizen testing centers, pharmacies). The negative test must be recorded on the OVGU pass by the offices available for registration at OVGU. Neither the time for testing nor for registration in the OVGU pass is work time.

Registration Options

If tests are taken at the OVGU test centers (see above), registration in the OVGU pass is automatic. Registration of other test certificates from pharmacies or other official test centers can also be done there. A self-test performed at home is not sufficient. The secretariat of the Department of Human Resources (Building 06 - Room 310) also performs the registration upon presentation of a current official test result.

In some secretariats, confirmation is possible on a decentralized basis.

Self-tests, which are provided decentrally (pick-up at the test center or at the Rector's Office - Dr. Volker Kirbs - is possible), may only be issued to those who have recovered or have been vaccinated. They have the possibility to be tested for their own safety, especially if meetings with several persons are to take place.

Documentation and control obligations

Also new is a documentation and control obligation for staff. According to Section 28 b (3) IfSG, employers are obliged to monitor the 3G regulations on a daily basis by means of verification checks and to document them on a regular basis. All employees are required to present appropriate proof upon request. Employers are allowed to process personal data including vaccination, convalescent and testing status data as part of their monitoring obligation. The data may also be used to adapt the company hygiene concept based on the risk assessment in accordance with Sections 5 and 6 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act, insofar as this is necessary.

Registration and recording is done centrally via the OVGU pass. No separate lists need to be kept in the areas. Nevertheless, the supervisors are obliged to obtain proof of the 3G status. For this purpose, it is sufficient if the vaccination or convalescent status (up to the expiration date) is presented once by the employees. For non-vaccinated or -recovered employees, proof of a negative test is made by showing the OVGU pass. There is an obligation on the part of supervisors to check the 3G status of these individuals on a daily basis. This obligation exists regardless of employment status and also applies to trainees and interns. For better practicability, the authority of the control should be delegated as far as possible, so that the effort for the individual superiors is low. The authority to control can also be delegated to secretariats or other structural units if this seems appropriate.

If the 3G status is not available, employees are to be placed on leave until the 3G status is presented again. This may involve the use of vacation or overtime or an unpaid leave of absence. Mobile work may be granted in these cases only if special exceptional conditions are met.

Renewed introduction of increased mobile work

Section 28 b (4) IfSG reintroduces a home office obligation. According to this, employers must "offer employees in the case of office work or comparable activities to carry out these activities in their homes if there are no compelling operational reasons to the contrary." For the employees, the following applies: "The employees must accept this offer if there are no reasons for them not to do so.

The wording of this provision corresponds to that which was already valid until June 30, 2021. Now, however, there is a not inconsiderable vaccination rate. Therefore, special consideration should be given to operational concerns when assessing whether mobile work can be requested or agreed to. If activities are not fully suitable for mobile work, other ways must be found to ensure employee safety. These include, first and foremost, the obligation to wear a mask up to the workplace, to observe distances and general hygiene rules. Only if these conditions are not met should consideration be given to granting mobile work. Something different applies to high-risk patients. All supervisors at our university are called upon to work with employees to find the best solutions. University regulations give every opportunity to make individual decisions.

Procedures for Corona infected individuals, contacts and employees with cold symptoms

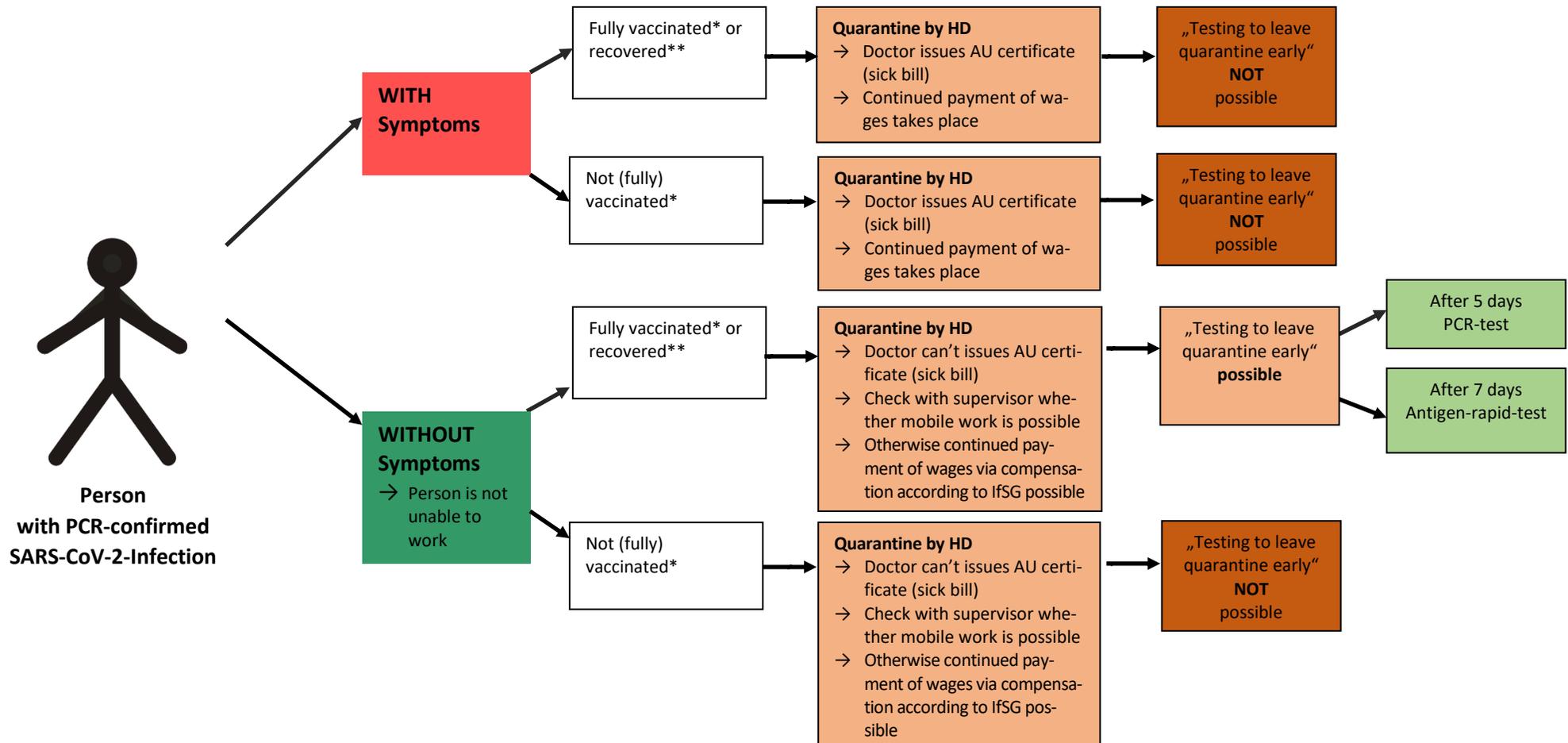
Not affected by the current change in the law is the reporting procedure for employees who test positive or those who are reported as close contacts. In order to make the procedures transparent here, you will find two diagrams in the appendix that show the procedures schematically. In addition, questionnaires are provided for contact tracing. Please be sure to adhere to OVGU's chain of reporting in the event of a positive test so that action can be taken.

Employees with symptoms of a cold should be especially mindful and work with their supervisors to find solutions that allow them to protect themselves and others.

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Jens Strackeljan November, 24th, 2021

Quarantine scheme for persons with PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection¹

- A positive PCR test is always reported by the test center to the responsible public health department (HD).
- Depending on the vaccinated and/or recovered status and the presence of symptoms of the disease, a quarantine is imposed (exclusively) by the HD according to the following scheme.
- Anyone who becomes ill with SARS-CoV-2 and is unable to work due to symptoms is entitled to continued payment of wages and, if applicable, sick pay in the event of illness - even if he or she should not have been vaccinated. In that case, however, a doctor's note of sick leave is always required despite quarantine.
- If you are in quarantine and show no symptoms despite confirmed SARS-CoV-2 infection, you must work if mobile working is possible for you. Communicate with your:m supervisor about this.
- For fully vaccinated* or recovered** persons without symptoms, there is also the possibility of "Testing to leave quarantine early".
- Note: Even if you were symptom-free at first and fall ill during quarantine, you are still incapacitated for work due to illness from this point on. If you are unable to work despite the quarantine, an AU certificate (sick bill) from your doctor is required.

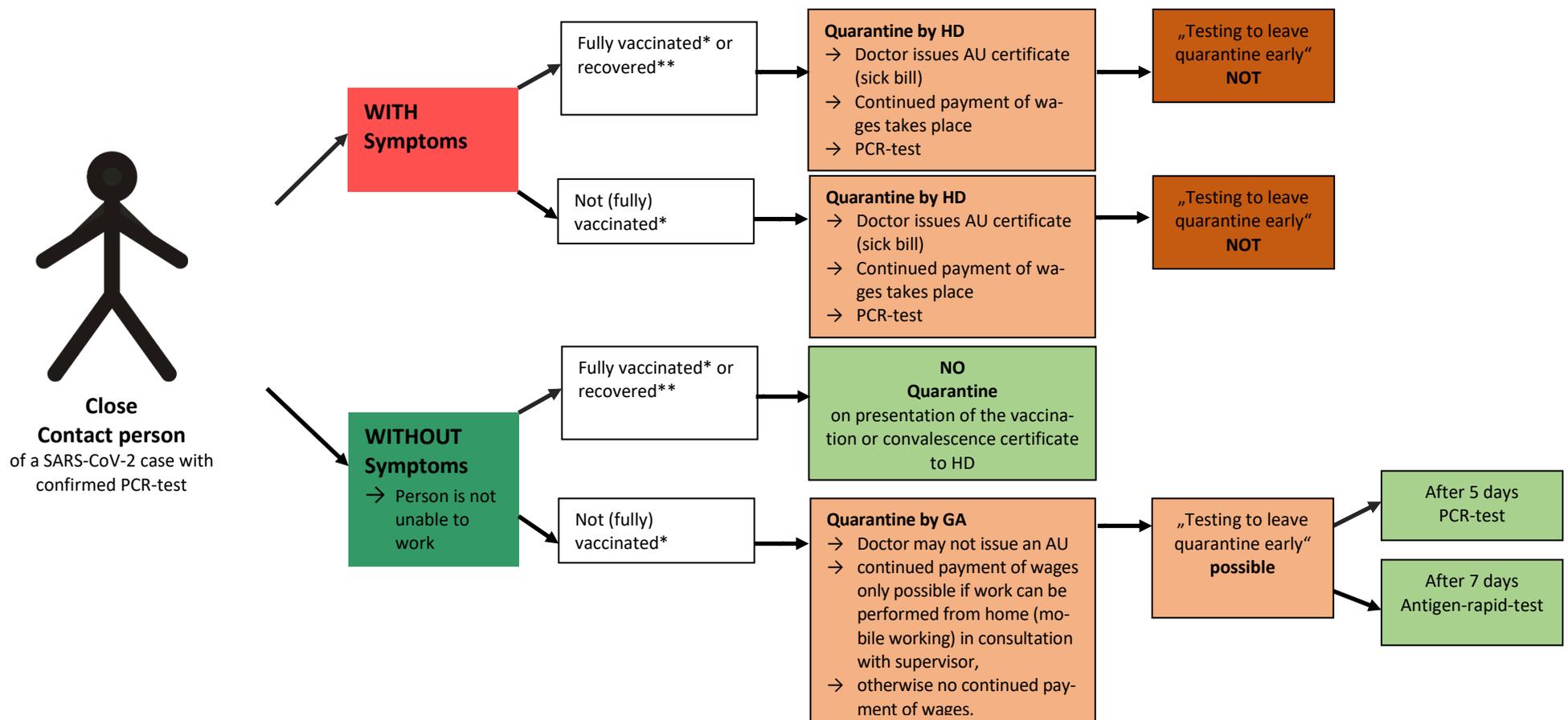


¹ All information in this scheme is based on the currently valid regulations of the Magdeburg Health Office (HD) and is intended as a general guide. The assessment of the risk of infection and thus the ordering and lifting of quarantine may differ in individual cases and is always the responsibility of the relevant health authority.

* with a vaccine approved in Germany according to the associated vaccination specification | ** pos. PCR test within the last 6 months | HD = competent public health department

Quarantine scheme for close Contact persons¹ (RKI-Definition)

- Depending on the vaccinated and/or recovered status and the presence of disease symptoms, a quarantine can also be imposed by the responsible public health department (HD) on close contacts of a PCR-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 case (exclusively).
- If you have symptoms for a Corona illness such as cough, fever, sore throat or similar, a sick note by the doctor is always required despite quarantine.
- Only fully vaccinated* or recovered** individuals are exempt from quarantine measures after contact with a confirmed SARS-CoV-2 case.
- For unvaccinated individuals who are quarantined as close contacts, continued pay is only available if you perform your work duties from home (mobile working). Please discuss this with your:m supervisor.
- Note:** Due to high incidence rates, many health departments are overburdened in terms of contact tracing. Therefore, if no timely contact is made by the health office, OVGU recommends that all contacts switch to mobile work/online teaching if possible for the next 7 days in consultation with their supervisor, keep professional and personal contact to a minimum, and test themselves daily if possible. Please observe yourself during this time. If symptoms occur, please contact your family doctor immediately.



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