Dear CECAD members,

Due to the current rising infection numbers and in order to prevent/delay further infections, the University Hospital has changed some of its general regulations.
Furthermore, you will find an update of the currently valid testing and quarantine regulations below.

General rules (as at 20.1.2022)

Test rules for employees	See table below
Obligation to wear masks	– Obligation to wear a medical mask in rooms, when more than 1 person is present, we recommend to wear always FFP2 masks – Obligation to wear a medical mask outside, when distance regulation is not applied
Staying/Working in offices	– Obligation to do home office, where possible – Limit the number of people in one room to a minimum (if possible provide 10 sqm/person) – Distance (at least. 1,5 m) – Obligation to wear a mouth-nose protection, when more than 1 person is in one room, FFP2-mask is recommended – Ventilation*
Internal meetings, seminars, training courses should generally take place online	Face-to-face events only allowed due to compelling business reasons – Limit the number of attendees to a minimum – FFP2-mask is obligatory – Traceability (list of participants) – Ventilation* – Please see note from task force regarding events, which have been approved#
Events (with external participants)	No face-to-face events - Please see note from task force regarding events, which have been approved#
Lunch breaks in common rooms	– Limit the number of people to a minimum - **we kindly ask to avoid any situation with more than 1 unmasked person in one room** – Distance (at least. 1,5 m) – Ventilation* – If possible apply fixed break groups – Traceability (list of participants)
Eating in the UKK cafeteria	Eating is currently not permitted in the cafeteria, but you can get food to go
Rules for external visitors (suppliers, craftsmen, service, service providers, etc.)	3G rule is valid, we recommend to ask external visitors to provide an official negative test (PCR test not older than 48 hours or rapid test not older then 24 hours) Contact person at CECAD / porters are responsible for checking the evidence

 # The task force for events of the University Hospital points out that this regulation also applies to events that have already been approve. They should be critically reviewed in this regard and cancelled if necessary. Requests for exceptions can still be sent by e-mail to veranstaltungenukk@uk-koeln.de using the attached form.

Updated regulations

Employee testing (according to UKK regulations, as at 19.1.2022)

Occasion-related testing of employees	Red Alert-App	→	**Regardless of vaccination status:** › In case of potential unprotected contact (e.g. restaurant visit): Report to KPM team and regular PCR testing upon requirement* › Unprotected contact not remembered: **NO** PCR test, NO report to KPM team*
Testing of UKK employees ONLY according to Infection Protection Law	Vaccinated	→	2 tests/week rapid-test (self-test, can be done at home)** *in case of a positive AG test results, a PCR test must be performed, stay at home while awaiting the result - DO NOT start work, inform the KPM team of the university hospital by e-mail (kpm-covid19@uk-koeln.de).*
	Unvaccinated	→	Daily rapid test (with certificate) before starting work, must be checked in the lab, without test no admission to work

* plus daily symptom control, FFP-2 mask obligation, no unprotected break contacts for monitoring period, in case of symptoms immediately PCR test, continue work only if PCR result is neg.
** result of your antigen test must be sent to the e-mail schnelltestmeldung@uk-koeln.de,

Quarantine and testing of infected persons and contact persons (as of 19.1.2022)

Testing of infected persons	**With symptoms and asymptotic** Regardless of vaccination or recovered status	→	› 7 days Isolation*, PCR-test required before you start work (in advance at least 48 h no symptoms) and negative PCR-test or Ct-Wert >30 › 10 days isolation, if you have symptoms till day 7 or at day 7 CT level < 30 determined in PCR test , at day 10 negative, certified AG rapid test
Testing of contact persons	**Without symptoms** WITH exposure to an infected person (unprotected or only one of the persons with medical mouth-nose protection or partially protected and > 10 min. in closed rooms)	→	1) Exposition to infected person can be terminated: **Boosted, freshly** double vaccinated or freshly recovered:** => No quarantine and PCR test every 2 days until day 7*** 2) Permanent exposure (e.g. household contacts): **Boostered, freshly** double vaccinated or newly recovered:** => Quarantine**** for 5 days, daily symptom control, on day 5 PCR test if symptom-free, start work if PCR is test negative. **Unvaccinated and doubly vaccinated or recovered >3 months after vaccination/infection:** => Quarantine for 10 days and daily symptom control, if symptoms appear PCR test. After end of quarantine, negative PCR test.

* After the onset of symptoms or in the case of asymptomatic persons, the day of the PCR smear, these days are assessed as day 0.
** fresh: 2nd vaccination or infection < 3 months ago
*** plus daily symptom control, FFP-2 mask obligation, no unprotected break contacts for surveillance period, in case of symptoms immediately PCR test, continue work only in case of neg. PCR result
**** if indispensable daily PCR control until day 5, daily symptom control until day 7, FFP-2 mask obligation, no unprotected break contacts, in case of symptoms immediately PCR test, continue work only in case of neg. PCR result

Changes in the requirement for the status 3G of employees in presence work (as at 14.1.2022)

- The status of persons who have been vaccinated with the vaccine of the company Johnson & Johnson changes will now only be considered as fully vaccinated if they have received at least two vaccine doses of this active ingredient or another vaccination with an approved mRNA vaccine in addition to the single dose.
- At the same time, the status as recovered is set to the period beginning on the 28th day after an initial positive PCR test and ending no later than 90 calendar days after the test date of that positive PCR test. Outside of this period, evidence of at least one administered vaccine dose must be provided at least 14 days ago.

The valid regulations regarding the status as vaccinated or recovered can be viewed on the website of the Paul Ehrlich Institute (see www.pei.de -> newsroom -> Coronovirus and Covid-19).

All lab heads are instructed to check whether the status of vaccinated and recovered is still valid for their lab members under the new regulations, even if evidence of this status has already been recorded. If this is not the case, a valid test with a negative test result must be presented in each case (no more than 24 hours old and carried out by a doctor's office or a certified testing center) before entering the premises of the University of Cologne/University Hospital and CECAD.

We recommend to use the CovPassCheck app, which already takes these new general conditions into account. For cases where the status cannot be clearly categorized, please contact the Information Office at info-praevention@verw.uni-koeln.de or the kpm team.

Very best wishes,
Bernhard Schermer, Carien Niessen, Sibylle Grandel