

ADJUSTMENTS BULLETIN 13.04

HEALTH (SELF ASSESSMENT) RISK ASSESSMENTS – UPDATED JANUARY 2022

- 1) **Context.** This bulletin contains updated information about health self-assessments risk assessments for School of Medicine Staff. In this context “staff” covers the following groups:
- a) Regular office-based and lab-based staff who work in a “socially distanced” manner
 - b) Clinical staff teaching in clinical skills and DR staff, where close proximity working (less than 1 m) is necessary, including those with an honorary status (eg. GCMs)
 - c) Simulated patients, who may be required to be in clinical skills sessions with close proximity working (paid hourly)
 - d) Clinical Tutors who teach in primary or secondary health care settings. These may be regular staff, honorary staff, or external clinical tutors who are paid on a per session basis.
 - e) We ask all staff to refresh their health self assessment risk assessments annually, or when there is a change in their health status as it pertains to covid risk factors.
- 2) **All staff** should consider their own health status including their immunisation status in relation to Covid-19 vulnerability and potential severity of infection in the context of working in the building.

If an employee has a health concern in relation to in-person work due to covid vulnerability, they are advised to contact Occupational Health (Janey Watt) by email on jw235@st-andrews.ac.uk or by calling on 2752, giving a brief description of their health concern and a contact number.

- 3) **Only** staff teaching in a clinical setting or those who undertake close proximity working (less than 1m) have the **additional requirement** of screening using the Scottish Government “COVID Age” screening tool. The following staff groups are required to undertake this additional screening:

Setting	Group
Clinical Skills	Teaching/support staff regularly working in close-proximity: School staff, GCMs, honorary staff
	Simulated patients
Anatomy	Anatomy teaching (and technical staff)
	Medical Demonstrators
Clinical placements	Teaching staff, honorary staff who teach in placements, external clinical tutors

Link to online COVID AGE tool: <https://alama.org.uk/covid-19-medical-risk-assessment/>

Many of our clinical teaching staff may have already undertaken COVID AGE tool screening as part of their clinical work. We are asking all staff working in close proximity to others to refresh this exercise every year. Could you confirm you are “up to date” with this by completing the confirmation survey.

Threshold for Occupational Health assessment based on COVID Age tool: If your survey returns a COVID age of >70 (“very high” or “high” categories) you are asked to contact either the university Occupational Health team or the regional NHS Occupational Health team as appropriate for follow up.

If you use the university Occupational Health team, email a digital version/screenshot of your completed online survey tool to Janey Watt (jw235@st-andrews.ac.uk). Given the sensitive nature of the content please password protect your survey with a password following the format: <First Initial Last Initial 2022> (e.g. Helen Clark would be HC2022). If preferred a hard copy can be sent to the university Occupational Health team in the internal post. Include a contact number to help Occupational Health get in touch if a follow up assessment is needed.

- 4) Confirmation of completion of health risk assessments.** The School will not keep a record of the outcome of individual health risk self-assessments and will not have sight of this information. It is incumbent on all staff to take action as appropriate for their own situation. For audit purposes please complete a quick survey to confirm you have completed the risk assessment exercise and accept the risks.
[Link to survey](#)