



Applicable as of 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022

# COVID-19 – Standards for the Validity of Vaccine Certificates issued by the Maltese Authorities

## Applicability

The following standards are issued under the Public Health Act Chapter 465 of the Laws of Malta and require strict adherence. Failure to adhere to these standards will result in enforcement procedures, as provided by the Act and the subsidiary legislation.

The applicable legislation is L.N.7 of 2022, Vaccination against COVID-19 Certificate (Amendment) Order, 2022

## Definitions

Primary Schedule - Primary schedule refers to the initial course of vaccination as recommended by the manufacturer e.g. two doses of Spikevax (Moderna), Comirnaty (Pfizer) or Vaxzevria (Astrazeneca) or one dose of the Janssen (Johnson& Johnson) vaccine

Booster – Booster refers to additional vaccine dose or doses following a full primary course of vaccination

## Vaccine certificate validity

A valid vaccine certificate issued by the Maltese Authorities is defined as follows:

For Adults aged 18 years and over:

- primary schedule with last dose administered not more than 3 months previously
- OR
- primary schedule and booster with last dose of booster administered not more than 9 months previously

For under 18 years:

- primary schedule

## Temporary Exemption criteria for travel

Persons who have a valid residency card and are returning to Malta between the 17th January 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 would be granted a temporary exemption, with respect to the validity of the vaccine certificate, in line with these standards. This thus allows them to enter Malta with the vaccine certification requirements in place prior to the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Following this date, persons who do not possess a valid vaccine certificate will be asked to undergo a period of 14 days quarantine on their arrival.

### Exemption

Those persons who have a valid residency card and who were already abroad as of the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 and are repatriating back to Malta will be exempt from quarantine if they have a vaccination certificate with a primary schedule of vaccination, provided they provide a negative PCR test carried out within 72 hours prior to arrival to Malta and would have applied for and take the booster dose within 5 days from arrival to Malta. This exemption does not apply to persons returning from dark red zones.