



COVID-19 Offshore Bulletin

Relaxed COVID-19 Offshore Mitigations

October 24, 2022

Shell Offshore Inc. (Shell) continues actively monitoring the risks posed by COVID-19 to offshore personnel working on our assets and the communities in which we operate. As previously communicated, the COVID-19 DRB, in consultation with Shell Health, continues to evaluate case data from our GOM assets, the communities in which we operate, and updated guidance from the US Centers for Disease Control to inform our suite of COVID-19 offshore mitigations.

The DRB has elected to relax some of the current controls including preflight testing and some required isolation of close contacts following exposure to a COVID-positive individual and to lift the vaccine mandate for travel offshore. These decisions were taken with input from Shell Health after careful consideration of data from our offshore operations as well as considering CDC guidance and overall community health metrics along the Gulf Coast where we operate.

WHAT IS CHANGING?

- **Effective November 1, the vaccine mandate to travel offshore to Shell Offshore Facilities is lifted.**
- **Preflight testing will be suspended (EXCEPT for individuals who came into close contact with a COVID-positive person in the 10 days prior to departure for offshore).**
 - If you have come into close contact with a COVID-positive person in the 10 days prior to your departure, you will need to provide a negative test just as you previously have from an approved test type. (See inset below for approved test types)
- **Preflight airport screening** will continue to screen you for COVID symptoms, temperature, and whether you have been in close contact with a COVID-positive individual in the 10 days prior to your flight.
- **Offshore close contacts will no longer be required to quarantine on the asset.** Instead, onboard close contacts will be required to wear a surgical or N95 mask for 10 days following exposure and will be tested on Day 5 following exposure.
 - If you traveled offshore after close contact with a COVID-positive individual on shore, you will be required to wear a surgical or N95 mask for 10 days following the date of exposure, in addition to providing a negative test to fly as outlined above.

The updated Field Guide for COVID-19 can be found here: [HSE0029-GL01.docx \(shell.com\)](#)

Actions you can take offshore to reduce the opportunities for COVID-19 to spread include maintaining good hygiene and reporting any symptoms to the onboard medic immediately.

PREFLIGHT TESTING ONLY IF YOU HAVE BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH COVID-19 WITHIN 10 DAYS OF YOUR FLIGHT:

As outlined above, you only need to provide proof of a negative test if you have been in close contact with someone who is positive for COVID-19 in the 10 days prior to your flight. Approved test types can be found below in accordance with previous guidance communicated.

UPDATED! Preflight Testing **ONLY** for Close Contacts w/in 10 days of departure



APPROVED TEST TYPES AND LEAD TIMES



PCR Tests

- Any brand of rapid or traditional PCR test given at a clinic or pharmacy.
- Specimen must be collected no more than **2 days** before planned departure.

Antigen Tests

- Any brand of rapid antigen test given at a clinic or pharmacy. (Common examples are *Abbott BinaxNow*, *BD Veritor*, *Quidel Sofia*, *Access Bio CareStart*)
- Specimen must be collected no more than **1 day** before planned departure.



Home Tests

At home tests are now acceptable **BUT** must meet updated CDC criteria listed below and be taken no more than **1 day** before departure.

- The test must be CDC compliant for international travel/re-entry to the United States.
- The testing procedure must include a telehealth service affiliated with the manufacturer of the test that provides real-time supervision during testing through and audio and video connection. (Note: some FDA-authorized self-tests may charge additional fees for the telehealth service mandatory to validate testing process and results.)
- The telehealth provider must provide a report that confirms your identity, that they observed the testing, type of test, the name of the laboratory or healthcare entity and the specimen collection date.

We understand that this decision may cause some deeply felt emotions to resurface, and we ask that you raise concerns you may have in a respectful and constructive manner with your line manager so that we can address them if possible. We know that the fight against COVID-19 has taken a lot out of all of us – and has taken time away from your families at home and offshore, and we encourage you to continue to look after yourself, your colleagues, and your families.

Thank you for your continued patience working to help mitigate the risks of spreading COVID-19 in the offshore environment. Your diligence in complying with the controls we put in place over the past two years have and continue to protect our community – both at home and offshore.