



Authority	Honourable Minister of Health
Type	Decision
Number	08
Category	COVID-19: vaccination
Start date	3 February 2022

**DECISION 08. ADDITIONAL MEASURES AGAINST SPREAD OF COVID-19
VARIANTS OF CONCERN**

I, Mr Silas Bule Melve, Minister of Health, by virtue of the Public Health Act [Cap. 234] and amendments thereof, and all other enabling powers, hereby confirm the following decision:

1. In light of the widespread circulation of SARS-CoV-2 variants of concern with higher transmissibility (Omicron) and higher severity (Delta) than previous variants, additional measures are required to provide increased protection against the spread of COVID-19 in Vanuatu.
2. For all healthcare and frontline workers, including all persons who support inbound travel and/or quarantine operations including border, customs, biosecurity, transport, security and other quarantine facility or isolation ward workers including staff, interns and consultants must employ correct and consistent use of N-95 medical masks at all times when performing functions that carry a risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2.
3. For all frontline persons supporting repatriation and quarantine as defined above in (2), 14-days of quarantine is required in the event of being identified as a close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19. The same quarantine conditions as for Decision 02 will apply.

This Decision comes into effect on 3 February 2022 and shall remain valid during the period of the Public Health Emergency for COVID-19, or as amended in writing by the Minister of Health or the Health Emergency Advisory Committee based on the evolving situation. This

decision replaces any other previous decision or decisions by the same authority regarding the same topic.

Signed

Dated



14 February 2022

Honourable Silas Bure Nalve
Minister of Health