

Requirements of the EU Digital COVID Certificate for healthcare services

The currently used national COVID-19 vaccination certificate will change into the EU Digital COVID Certificate as from 22 June 2021. The objective is that the test certificates and certificates of recovery in the EU Digital COVID Certificates will be deployed in the My Kanta Pages service as from 14 July 2021.

The EU Digital COVID Certificate is based on data saved in Kanta

Before all of the EU Digital COVID certificates can be deployed, the vaccination data and test results entered in the healthcare service must be saved in Kanta in accordance with the national specifications and the registering instructions of the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare (THL).

The EU test certificate will be available in My Kanta Pages after the result of the COVID-19 PCR or antigen sample has been entered in Kanta in accordance with the THL's instructions.

Procedure for the healthcare services

The COVID-19 test results are retrieved for the certificate from the sample result field. The result in the report text cannot be utilised in the creation of the certificate. Although the report of the microbiology test is written, the response is also entered in the result field according to the agreed instruction. The national instructions will determine what can be entered in the study field to ensure successful retrieval.

In terms of antigens, the EU regulation determines that the name and manufacturer of the test is mandatory data. Before the data in question can be reliably retrieved for the certificate, the preparation-specific national code of the Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities created for each antigen test must be used. The codes will be published on the Code Server at the end of June. The instructions for correct use of the codes will be published as soon as possible in the THL's guidance on registering and operating models.

A negative test results corresponding to the data contents required by the EU will be valid for 72 hours after the latest negative PCR sample result and 48 hours after an antigen sample result if the member country accepts the validity periods in accordance with the recommendations.

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The certificate of recovery with EU data contents is valid for 180 days after a positive PCR sample result. The certificate of recovery cannot be created from an antigen test result.

Required measures for the EU certificates of recovery

No programme-related changes are required in the patient data systems, but the healthcare organisations must ensure creation of documents and timely archiving in Kanta in cooperation with the system supplier. According to the recommendations, a negative sample result of the COVID-19 test is usually valid for 48 or 72 hours and there must not be any delays in archiving it in Kanta. Healthcare organisations that are aware of archiving delays must notify the clients in their area and provide instructions on obtaining an up-to-date test certificate.

Printing of the EU Digital COVID Certificate in the healthcare service

The operating models must also be planned for situations where the client does not get a certificate from My Kanta Pages or is not using My Kanta Pages. The healthcare service must provide the client with another certificate for the COVID-19 vaccination, if necessary.

The healthcare service must ensure that it is using a system where healthcare professionals can also print out a COVID-19 certificate for persons who are not using the My Kanta Pages service. If it is not possible to implement in the patient data system the change required for printing within the required schedule, the organisations are offered a national printing and registering service for temporary use. The EU regulation on the COVID certificate is expected to be valid between 7/2021 and 6/2022. According to the schedule of the EU regulation, the printing option should be ready by 12 August 2021. As a rule, the users of the service are public service operators that have already joined Kanta. The service is offered free of charge to public operators or to a private operator that produces social welfare and healthcare services in public service operations on behalf of a public operator. The possibility of private service providers to obtain the right to use the national printing and recording service is currently investigated.

- <https://stm.fi/documents/1271139/38741793/Ohjauskirje+koskien+koronatodistusten+antamista+terveydenhuollosta-.pdf/cc1ad51c-dabd-a887-4bc5-a615281ada96/Ohjauskirje+koskien+koronatodistusten+antamista+terveydenhuollosta-.pdf?t=1624272958426>

Further information

[EU Digital COVID Certificate available in Finland as of 22 June – Ministry of Social Affairs and Health \(stm.fi\)](https://stm.fi)

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[Coronavirus information for professionals - Kanta.fi](#)

[COVID-19 infections: instructions for social welfare and healthcare professionals \(thl.fi\).](#)

Customer service for professional clients answers questions concerning, e.g. being a client of the Kanta Services and joining the client test service and gives advice on other situations related to the Kanta Services: kanta@kanta.fi.

THL is responsible for the national guidance on data entry: sotetiedonhallinta@thl.fi.