



DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF CIVIL AVIATION
OPP. SAFDURJUNG AIRPORT
NEW DELHI - 110003

CIRCULAR

File No. AV/22025/25A/DMS/MED
dated - 18 Dec 20

Subject: AEROMEDICAL DISPOSITION OF COVID-19

1. The clinical presentation of COVID-19 is wide-ranging. The aeromedical disposition of aircrew, who has been tested positive on RT PCR for Corona Virus, is essentially dependent on the clinical presentation.
2. **Asymptomatic Infection.** Asymptomatic infections refer to the positive detection of nucleic acid of SARS-CoV-2 in patient samples by reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), but have no typical clinical symptoms or signs and no apparent abnormalities on imaging. Such pilots will undergo isolation management.
3. **Symptomatic Infection.** Based on the symptoms and clinical presentation COVID-19 patients can be broadly divided into four types: mild, moderate, severe and critical cases. Such patients will be managed according to the extant guidelines on the subject issued from time to time.
4. The aeromedical disposition of civil aircrew suffering from COVID-19 (based on the currently available clinical guidelines) will be as follows: -
 - (a) **SARS-CoV-2 Positive Asymptomatic Aircrew.** Asymptomatic COVID-19 RT-PCR positive aircrew will undergo home isolation of 10 days. On completion of these 10 days, the aircrew can be declared 'fit for unrestricted flying' by his/her AMA, provided their clinical parameters are normal. The cure certificate issued by the Company AMA or concerned specialist to be forwarded to DGCA Med Dte for inclusion in his/her PMR.

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(b) **SARS-CoV-2 Positive Mildly Symptomatic Aircrew.** Aircrew who test positive for COVID-19 through RT-PCR with mild symptoms and have been recommended home isolation, will continue home isolation and will stand discharged after 10 days of symptom onset and no fever for three days. There is no need for testing after the home isolation period is over. The aeromedical disposition of such aircrew will depend on the duration of their isolation period.

(i) **Isolation Period Less than or equal to 14 Days.** The aeromedical disposition of aircrew whose isolation period was less than or equal to 14 days, will be same as for an asymptomatic aircrew, as stated in para 6(a) above.

(ii) **Isolation Period more than 14 Days.** If the isolation period of the aircrew is more than 14 days, then, on completion of isolation management, such aircrew will be examined by DGCA empanelled Class 1 Examiner with cure certificate and opinion of concerned specialist. Once declared 'fit for flying' by DGCA empanelled Class 1 Examiner, the aircrew can commence flying only after DGCA Medical Assessment is issued.

(c) **SARS-CoV-2 Positive Moderately/Severely Symptomatic Aircrew.** After complete clinical recovery, the aircrew has to undergo 'Special Medical Examination' at one of the IAF Boarding Centres only, with a 'cure certificate'. Such pilots can be considered for unrestricted flying provided their clinical examination and laboratory investigations reveal no finding that can cause a functional deficit. Once declared 'fit for flying' at the IAF Boarding Centre, the aircrew can commence flying only after DGCA Medical Assessment is issued.

5. These guidelines will be reviewed periodically, as per the Government of India directives and guidelines.

6. **This circular supersedes the office circular issued vide File No. DGCA-12023/1/2020-Medical on 22 Jun 20.**

(Director General of Civil Aviation)