

COVID-19 and Aviation Safety

EASA response and next steps

Patrick Ky Executive Director

EP TRAN Committee Meeting 29 October 2020



COVID-19: EASA first response and the EASA/ECDC Protocol

EASA SIB on passengers and crew management

> COVID-19 Safety Information Bulletin

> > 27 Jan

EASA SD mandating disinfecting and cleaning of aircraft

> COVID-19 Safety Directive

11- 13 March

Guidance on: Aircraft Cleaning and Disinfection; Crew **Management**; **Processing of new** aircraft configurations for medical transport



COVID-19 dvice

Transport of cargo in passengers aircrafts: airworthiness aspects and operational guidance



EASA/ECDC Aviation Health Safety Protocol



20 May

Launch of the programme to monitor EASA/ECDC **Protocol Implementation**



26 May

31 Dec

Outbreak identified in Wuhan



First European case tested (DE)



WHO recognises the spread of COVID-19 as a pandemic



March

pandemic



In April US has become the epicenter of pandemic



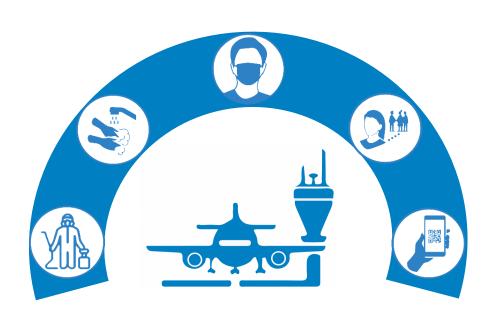
South America is presently the epicenter of the pandemic

April - May

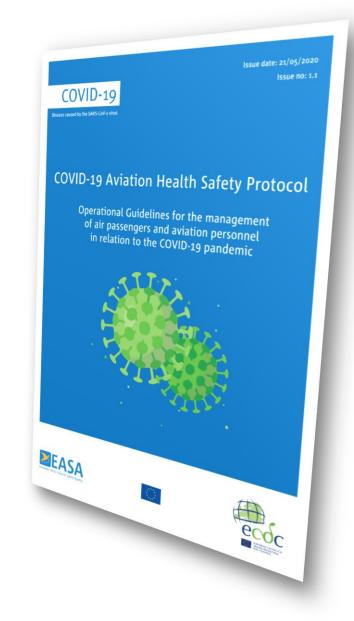




EASA/ECDC COVID-19 Aviation Health Safety Protocol



- → Aiming to ensure safe and secure operations and restore public confidence
- Aiming to ensure a harmonised EU-wide approach to facilitate operators and travellers
- Pointing to coordination, communication and planning as essential assets





EASA Program to Monitor the Protocol Implementation

- → 48 Airport Operators (incl. more than 100 airports) and 52 Airlines have signed the Charter, representing more than 40% of European air traffic
- → By the end of September, 90% of Charter signatories submitted data
- Weekly traffic analysed: 6 million passengers served by participating airports and 3 million passengers served by participating airlines





Protocol Implementation

- → Data gathered from EASA MS airports and airlines shows that **the measures proposed in the Protocol work** and the aviation environment is not more prone to spreading the virus than the general society:
 - Very few passengers showing symptoms in flight (ratio: 0.46 per 100 000 passengers carried) and clear guidelines are available to manage those symptomatic passengers on board
 - No evidence of in flight transmission
 - Passengers are adhering to the proposed measures
 - Crew and airport staff infection rates are considerably lower than the median infection rate of the general public in the EASA MS (ratio: infected flight crew at 1.05 and cabin crew at 2.63 per 100 000 passengers carried; infected airport personnel at 2.76 per 100 000 departing passengers)

Aviation is a COVID-safe mode of transport

Remarked side effects: **increase in some processing time** as boarding and waiting for baggage



What is next

- → Digital passenger locator form: harmonization at EU level for sharing data and support the management of outbreaks
- → Harmonised travel rules across Europe: EASA and ECDC working on a testing protocol for travellers (looking also at asymptomatic passengers)



Managing COVID-19 impact on aviation safety...

EASA is identifying and monitoring risks related to a slow traffic recovery

Management Systems

Human Performance Outdated Information

Training,
Checking and
Recency

Infrastructure and Equipment

Financial Impact

Importance of full reliance on management systems for the integration of CV19 mitigations into organisations' work

Impact of the shutdown and return to service on human performance, such as fatigue or well-being

Several types of information may be out of date and difficult to update in time for a return to service, or to maintain updated with reduced staff

Safety issues related to the erosion of competence of aviation personnel

Safety issues
relating to
maintaining or
returning
infrastructure and
equipment to
service, such as
fuel contamination,
ground service
equipment
serviceability,
damage to
aerodrome
surfaces caused by
parked aircraft

Financial impact of the shutdown and slow return to service may affect safety due to fewer resources and disconnected supply chains





Thanks for your attention

easa.europa.eu/connect















