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# WHO RECAP

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Fourteenth Meeting of the Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation - Asia Pacific (CAPSCA-AP/14)

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# 74<sup>TH</sup> WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY – KEY UPDATES

## **Current Temporary Recommendations under the IHR - 7<sup>th</sup> Emergency Committee - (to State Parties)**

- Do not require proof of vaccination as a condition of entry
- Prioritize vaccination for seafarers and air crews
- Share information with WHO on the effects of health measures

## **IHR Review Committee made specific recommendations on travel measures**

- Apply a risk-based approach to implementing additional measures with regular risk assessments and re-evaluations
- **Travel measures** should be ensured to be **necessary, proportionate and non-discriminatory**
- Strengthen the **evidence base** and its recommendations on the **impact and advisability of travel restrictions**
- **Robust mechanism to collect and share information on travel measures between all parties**

## **WHA Resolution A74\_R7: Strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies- Urges Member States:**

- Cooperate in order to **facilitate cross-border travel** of persons for essential purposes during a health emergency and avoid unnecessary interference with trade
- Support stronger coordination with relevant multilateral organizations to **improve understanding and mechanisms to deal with travel and trade considerations**

# WHO GUIDANCE ON RISK-BASED APPROACH FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

- **Considerations for implementing a risk-based approach to international travel in the context of COVID-19 - Key updates ongoing:**
  - 1) Inclusion of variants in risk assessment
  - 2) Proof of COVID-19 vaccination and recovery
  - 3) Updated evidence-based recommendations on travel-related measures
- Refined assessment questions to account for **impact of newly detected variants:**
  - **risks of exportation and importation of new VOIs and VOCs**
  - **impact on countries: overwhelmed or weak health system and public health capacities**
  - **measures to be time-limited; not prejudiced towards countries sequencing and sharing findings**
- Risk mitigation measures at **population level** - Same recommendations, **backed up by updated scientific evidence**
- Risk mitigation at **individual level** – Exemption from **SARS-CoV-2 testing and/or quarantine** can be considered for incoming travellers
  - Travellers **fully vaccinated** at least two weeks prior to travelling (with vaccines approved by WHO or stringent regulatory authority)
  - Travellers with proof of **previous SARS-CoV-2 infection** confirmed by RT-PCR received within the past 6 months; no longer infectiousCountry may prefer not to implement based on risk assessment or with concern on immune-escape variants

# Digital Documentation of COVID-19 Certificate

**Key updates to scope: The work of smart vaccination certificate (SVC) was re-scoped in line with mandate and recognized global priorities**

- **WHO will no longer be establishing specifications for an international trust framework** to validate COVID-19 certificates issued in different countries & **WHO will no longer be creating a public key directory (PKD) to host public keys** Member States will use to sign COVID-19 certificates
- Smart Vaccination Certificate (SVC) guidance will now be referred to as “**Digital Documentation of COVID-19 Certificates (DDCC)**” and will also include digital certificates for SARS-CoV-2 testing and Recovery Status
- WHO will provide three guidance documents that recommends the **minimum dataset, interoperability standards, core functionalities, and implementation guidance**
  1. DDCC: Vaccination Status
  2. DDCC: SARS-CoV-2 Testing
  3. DDCC: Recovery Status
- WHO will provide implementation guidance for establishing **national trust frameworks** for issuing and validating trusted DDCCs

# THANK YOU

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