

CAPSCA Partners Perspectives: Beyond _____

Date: February 15, 2023



**Federal Aviation
Administration**



Lessons Learned

- The next threat may not be containable.
- Closing borders/states/towns/cities/homes may not prevent transmission of the next threat.
- No single solution will mitigate the next threat (e.g. vaccines).
- Effective mitigations require reliable, actionable data.
- Collaboration and communication are invaluable.



How do we leverage the past 3 years?

- Move from where we are, to a surveillance-based model –
 - Data analysis
 - Watch disease trends around the world
- Guidance
 - Annex 9
 - Annex 9 Guidance Material
- Planning
- Innovation
- Message the importance, even when not urgent

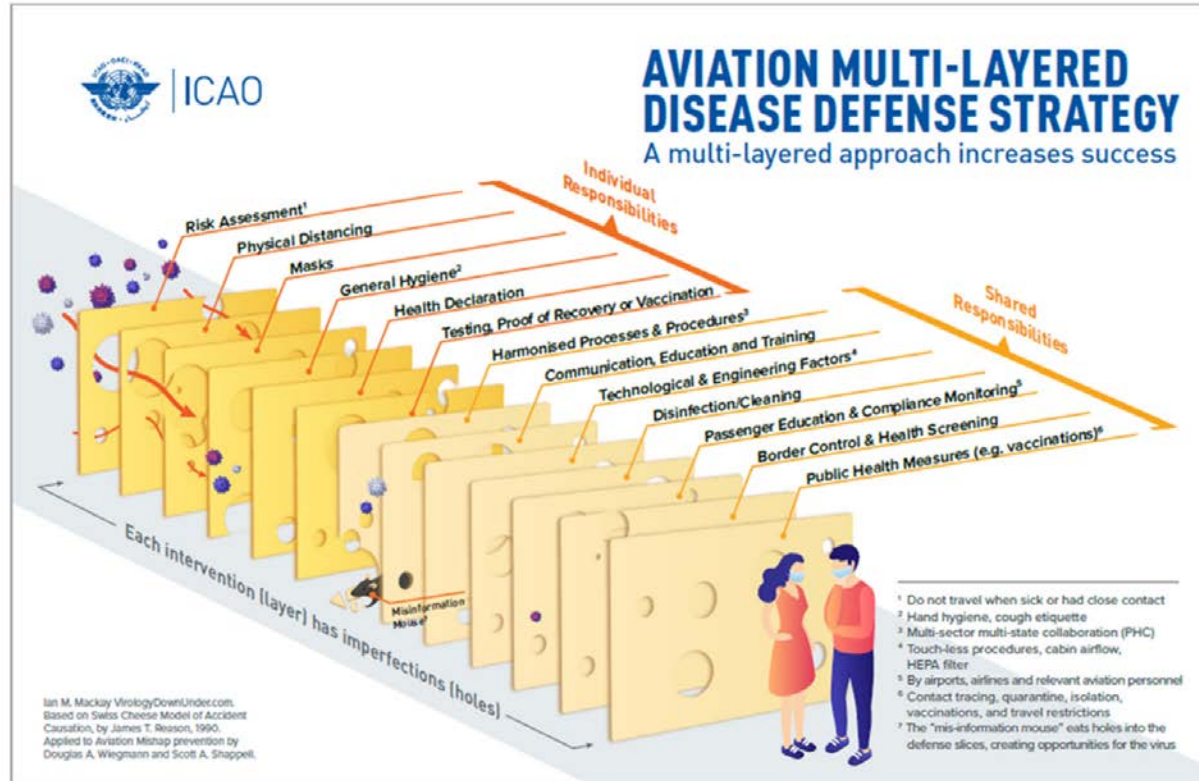


Planning - The Foundations

- Risk-based
- Science-informed
- Multi-layered
- Responsive to contagions as observed
- Flexible
- Driven by intel and data



Still Valid



Planning – The Next Level

- Provide for paths forward that are –
 - Deliberate
 - Measured and measurable
 - Scalable
- Emphasize preparedness -
 - Establish and communicate a clear plan, then
 - Exercise the plan
- Multi-lateral and apolitical
- Rooted in collaboration



Collaboration Begins at Home

- The U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC):
 - Participates in CAPSCA alongside FAA and the U.S. DOT
 - Evaluates ill travelers arriving in the U.S., alerts other travelers about potential exposures, and informs them of prevention measures.
 - Provides technical assistance to other countries in implementing public health measures at their own borders, including exit screening when recommended to prevent serious public health threats from spreading to other parts of the world.
 - Has no centralized vaccine registry.



Innovation –Surveillance

- CDC's Traveler-based Genomic Surveillance program:
 - An early warning system to detect new and rare variants
 - Also allows analysis of trends over time.
 - Arriving international travelers volunteer to provide nasal swabs.
 - Swabs are batched into pools (5–25 swabs per pool) at the airport.
 - Pooled samples are sent to a lab network for PCR (polymerase chain reaction) testing and genomic sequencing.
 - The CDC analyzes select samples for viral characterization.



Innovation –Surveillance

- The CDC & airplane wastewater:
 - Relatively low resource approach to monitor variants in global transportation hubs without direct traveler involvement or disruption to airport operations
 - Complements other traveler-based genomic surveillance systems
 - Provides one means of early warning for new variants
 - Helps to fill variant surveillance blind spots in regions with limited sequencing data
 - Part of overall surveillance strategy



Advance Passenger Information System

- The U.S. Department of Homeland Security issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to update the Advance Passenger Information System (APIS):
 - Summarized with directions for commenting at:
<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/02/02/2023-02139/advance-passenger-information-system-electronic-validation-of-travel-documents>
 - Comment period open until April 3, 2023.
- A provision in the proposal would help close existing gaps and improve the quality and completeness of traveler information
 - Addresses contact information available for public health follow up.



CDC Information Sharing

- CDC publishes Travel Health Notices to inform travelers and clinicians about current health issues that impact travelers' health at destinations around the world:
 - Disease outbreaks
 - Special events or gatherings
 - Natural disasters.
- CDC postings on electronic message boards at ports of entry:
 - Advise travelers about specific health threats, outbreaks, and recommendations



Next Steps Beyond _____

- Leverage lessons learned
- Focus forward
- Update guidance and programs
- Plan for the next event, whatever shape it may take
- Innovate
- Communicate

Thank you!

