

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control

Contact Tracing Project Team - Updates

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ECDC's engagement at the interface between Aviation and Public Health globally

- Public health emergency preparedness in aviation:
  - CAPSCA: **C**ollaborative **A**rrangement for the Prevention and Management of **P**ublic Health Events in **C**ivil **A**viation





  - Contact tracing: since 2024, project with ICAO and WHO to facilitate sharing of passenger data
    - by working with ICAO governing bodies to achieve amending SARPs Annexes to the Chicago convention and
    - to advocate with and inform European CAAs

- Airports emergency management: ACI, EASA

Background

From pandemic tools to routine readiness

- **Pandemic context:** prospective, large-scale passenger data collection through dPLFs
- **Routine context:** retrospective tracing following identification of a rare or sporadic infectious case
- **Persistent gap:** timely access to complete and accurate airline passenger data
- **Cross-border complexity:** different actors, systems, formats and legal responsibilities
- **Project rationale:** establish a proportionate, standardised and workable process





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EUR Contact Tracing Project Team

- Co-chaired by WHO/EURO and ECDC
- ICAO EUR/NAT will provide Secretariat support
- EASA representatives
- Subject matter exerts
- Meets formally four times per year
- Project duration: Sep 2024 – July 2029
- Objective: Review contact tracing procedures (CTP) and the role of airlines and public health authorities in the EUR/NAT and MID areas and suggest the way forward. Report during the plenary CAPSCA EUR/MID meetings.

Project high-level tasks

1. Review the existing CTPs and the role of airlines and public health authorities in the EUR/NAT and MID areas;
2. Identify bottlenecks and inefficiencies while occasionally and retroactively retrieving passenger data related to air travel of infected passengers;
3. Suggest way forward for operational and regulatory steps.

Next steps

- Adopt the ToR for the project team
- Distribute (for input) the standardised contact tracing template (for airlines) to NFPs

EUR CONTACT TRACING Project Team (ECT PT) ToR	
Project Title	European Contact Tracing Project Team (ECT PT)
Parent Group	CAPSCA EUR
Project Period	Sep 2024 to July 2029
Project Objective	Review contact tracing procedures (CTP) and the role of airlines and public health authorities in the European area and suggest the way forward. Report during the plenary CAPSCA EUR/MID meetings.
Project Outcomes	Communicate and clarify on the work of the Project Team that contract tracing is mainly an instrument relevant for rare situations to trace contacts of infected passengers unrelated to pandemics. Prepare a briefing note for ICAO HQ on the challenges associated with obtaining data for contact tracing purposes, and follow up with the relevant Sections, Panels, Study Groups and Working Groups. Develop a contact tracing request template for distribution to Civil Aviation Authorities (CAAs), airlines, and public health authorities. Contribute to the review and amendment of public health-related SARPs and guidance material concerning contact tracing, as appropriate.
Membership	As nominated by CAPSCA EUR/MID, EASA, ECDC, WHO EUR and WHO EMR. Other subject matter experts may also participate, as deemed appropriate by the Project Team.
Coordination Requirements	A series of virtual meetings. Coordination may also be required with subject matter experts outside the PT.
Project High Level Tasks	1. Review the existing CTPs and the role of airlines and public health authorities in the EUR/NAT and MID areas; 2. Identify bottle necks and inefficiencies while occasionally and retroactively retrieving passenger data related to air travel of infected passengers (problem statement); 3. Suggest way forward for operational and regulatory steps.
Project Lead (Chair Team)	WHO/Europe and ECDC
Project Secretariat Support	ICAO EUR/NAT Office

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Thank you