## 6th Collaborative Arrangement for the Prevention and Management of Public Health Events in Civil Aviation (CAPSCA) Meeting

Protea Hotel Midrand, Johannesburg South Africa

12 - 16 October 2015

# AIRLINE EMERGENCY REPONSE PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN DAICY DEMAS

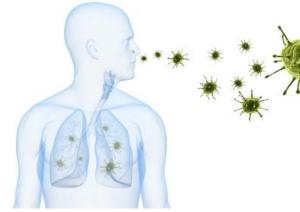


- South African Airways (SAA) Airport
   Operations has established a clear procedure
   in response to a suspected communicable
   disease or passengers with ill health with the
   potential to pose a serious public health risk.
- The procedure is documented in the Customer Procedures Manual: Section 2 Chapter 39 as well as in the 14 CFR Part 382 learner guide.
- SAA procedure adheres to IATA
   Communicable Disease recommended guidelines in collaboration with the WHO.



### **Ground Staff Screening Process**

- A communicable disease is suspected by ground staff, when a customer:
- Has a visible skin rash
- Has a severe cough
- Is obviously unwell
- Has a high fever and complains of the following :





- Severe cough
- Fever
- Bruising or bleeding without previous injury
- Persistent diarrhoea
- A non-visible skin rash
- Persistent Vomiting





- When ground staff suspect that a customer displays these signs or symptoms, they :
- Call their Team Leader / Supervisor immediately
- If Team Leader / Supervisor shares the same concern, contact the SAA Medical Department / External Physician / Airport Medical Facility / Port Health
- If medical support is not immediately available, customer will be denied boarding and customer asked to consult a physician and request a medical clearance before travel is accepted

# Procedure if a communicable disease is suspected and a customer is denied boarding

- Customer's baggage will be offloaded.
   Recommended that ground staff wash their hands with soap and water after handling the baggage.
- Assistance will be provided if customer requires to be escorted. Masks to be worn / Tissues used to cover both the customers / airline staff's mouth.

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS

- In terms of Article 32 of the WHO
   International Health Regulation, SAA will treat customers with dignity and try to minimise discomfort. If a translator/interpreter is needed, we will try our best to arrange one.
- In some countries (eg: USA), the Customer Complaint Resolution Official (CCRO) must be involved.
- Ground Staff / Airport will inform Customer Care of decision take and provide additional information.

# Procedure if a communicable disease is suspected and a customer is allowed to board

- This should not happen as staff are aware of the problems associated if this is allowed.
- Seek guidance from SAA Medical department.
- Airline staff to note on General Declaration and advise Cabin Crew.
- Destination airport to be advised.



### What SAA has Implemented

- Training Course that is mandatory for all ground staff to attend within 36 months (every 36 months). The training course explains important and essential aspects of communicable diseases. This will equip ground staff to effectively screen customers and forms part of the US DOT Part 382 training.
- Training records are available at the training section.
- Regular audits are carried out to ensure that ground staff know procedure to follow.



 Communicable Disease flashcards available at all check-in and ticketing counters, for staff to refer to





- Masks, gloves and hand sanitizers readily available.
- Communiques distributed by Medical Department to all SAA employees when faced with a suspected case of a communicable disease, so that all are informed of WHO updates.
- Briefing reminders.



#### **General Declaration**

- ICAO made changes to the General Declaration – Declaration of Health.
- SAA requested these changes in 2014 from Amadeus. They have lodged a service request and all carriers had to approve this. The final approval was obtained and the changes will be reflected by end of 2015.
- Ground staff will print a gen dec for each flight and hand over to the crew. The crew will update any incidents on board and on arrival hand the gen dec to Port Health.



### **Changes Made to Gen Dec**

NAME AND SEAT NUMBER OR FUNCTIONS OF PERSONS BOARD WITH ILLNESSES OTHER AIRSICKNESS OR THE EFFECTS OF ACCIDENTS, WHO MAY BE SUFFERING FROM A COMMUNICABLE DISEASE (A FEVER, TEMPERATURE 38°C/100.F OR GREATER, ASSOCIATED WITH ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SIGNS OR SYMPTOMS: E.G. APPEARING OBVIOUSLY UNWELL; PERSISTENT COUGHING; IMPAIRED BREATHING; PERSISTENT DIARRHEA; PERSISTENT VOMITING; SKIN RASH; BRUISING OR BLEEDING WITHOUT PREVIOUS INJURY; OR CONFUSION OF RESENT ONSET, INCREASES THE LIKELIHOOD THAT THE PERSON IS SUFFERING A COMMUNICABLE DISEASE) AS WELL AS SUCH CASES OF ILLNESS DISEMBARKED DURING A PREVIOUS STOP.



#### Generic Altea Report

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Report content

#### AMADEUS Your technology partner

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                GENERAL DECLARATION
                I.C.A.O. ANNEX 9 APPENDIX 1
*******************
(OUTWARD) DATE : 04OCT
OPERATOR : SOUTH AFRICAN AIRWAYS FLIGHT NO : SA234
MARKS OF NATIONALITY AND REGISTRATION : 2S-SXB
DEPARTURE FROM : JOHANNESBURG SOUTH AFRICA
ARRIVAL AT : LONDON UNITED KINGDOM
                    FLIGHT ROUTING
                                            NO OF PAX ON
            TOTAL NUMBER OF CREW
                                            THIS STAGE
JNB CAPT DELANEY A
                                        -EMBARKING 227
       MACKAUKAU H
LHR FO
                                          PLUS INF
                                                      001
   P3
         CARR D
                                         -THROUGH ON SAME
   IFSC MDLULI L
                                          FLIGHT
   SCCM MAGALHAES G
                                          PLUS INF
   CCM
        NAIDU E
                                        ARRIVAL PLACE
   CCM
        MOHLALA S
                                         -DISEMBARKING 227
   CCM
        MTYALI K
                                         PLUS INF 001
   CCM
        MUGENI K
                                          -THROUGH ON SAME
   CCM
        NGEMA T
                                          FLIGHT
                                                    000
   CCM
       MOLETSANE J
                                         PLUS INF 000
   CCM
         ADKINS M
       MATHABA R
DECLARATION OF HEALTH :
PERSONS ON BOARD WITH ILLNESS OTHER THAN AIR SICKNESS OR THE
EFFECTS OF ACCIDENT (INC PERSONS WITH SYMPTOMS OR SIGNS OF
 ILLNESS SUCH AS RASH FEVER CHILLS DIARRHOEA) AS WELL AS
THOSE CASES OF ILLNESS DISEMBARKED DURING THE FLIGHT :
ANY OTHER CONDITIONS ON BOARD WHICH FOR OFFICIAL USE
MAY LEAD TO THE SPREAD OF DISEASE :
                                     ONLY
 DETAILS OF EACH DISINSECTING OR
 SANITARY TREATMENT (PLACE DATE TIME
```



### **THANK YOU**





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## SUSPECTED COMMUNICABLE DISEASE GUIDELINES FOR CABIN CREW



#### **Guidelines for Cabin Crew**



A temperature above 38 degrees Celsius
Associated with one or more of the following

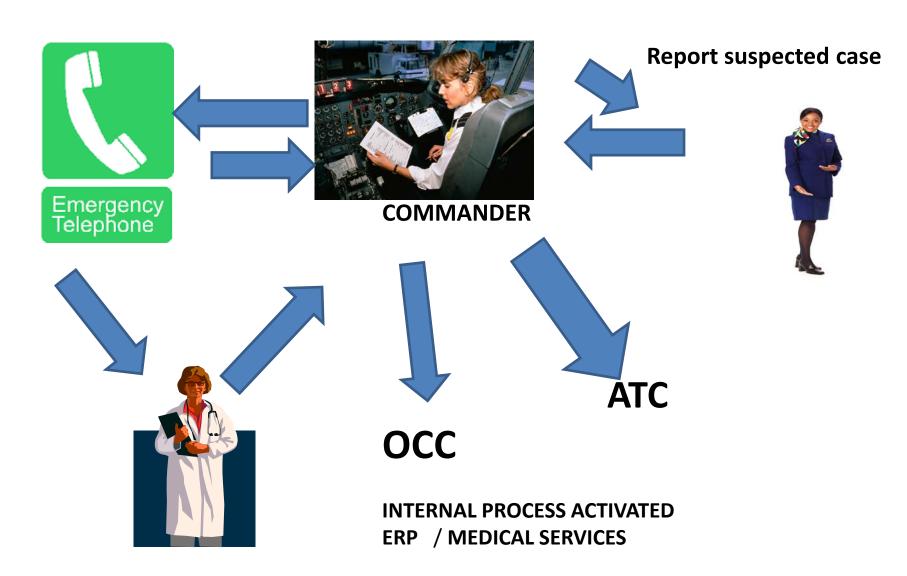
Appearing obviously unwell
Persistent coughing
Persistent diarrhoea
Impaired breathing
Persistent vomiting
Skin rash
Bruising or bleeding without previous injury
Confusion of recent onset

History of travel in last 21 days

**Ask Accompanying Pax of any similar symptoms** 

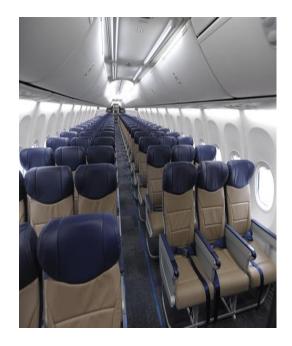
Note: If the temperature of the affected person is normal but several travellers have similar symptoms think of other public health issues such as chemical exposure

#### **NOTIFICATION ON BOARD**



## On Board Action Plan Suspected Communicable disease

Relocate adjacent passengers 2meters between ill pax/other



No seats available offer **Designate one crewmember** masks adjacent pax

### **Passenger Care**

#### **Respiratory Etiquette**







Block Off Toilet for specific Pax/If no extra toilet available crew to educate pax on UPK-Washing hands/wiping toilet seat tap handles/door handles with antiseptic provided or soap and water



#### **CABIN CREW CONCERNS-EXPOSURE**

#### When Exposed to Body Fluids

- TRAINING FROM MNORT
- Inception of High Level PPE
- Identifying the GAPS Hot/Uncomfortable/ Pretty Scary for crew

#### **Crew much more Relaxed**

- REMOVAL suit even
- More important
- INTENSIFIED TRAINING PRIOR TO FLIGHT AND IN RECURRENT TRAINING

Proper Donning and Removal Key Aspect of Training



#### **Flight Operations**

- OM Part 1 Chapter 9 Rev 15
- Cabin Crew to inform the Captain of the passenger with suspected communicable disease
- Captain to notify ATC (to allow for notification of Port Health
- Captain to notify the SAA GOCC (request disinfection of a/c)
- Captain to complete the Communicable Disease GENDEC
- Trained by Sr. Linda annually during recurrent training

#### **FOLLOW UP/TRACING**

- PASSENGER LOCATOR FORMS
- GENERAL DECLARATION FORMS TO BE COMPLETED BY CABIN CREW FOR PAX ROWS FORWARD/AFT/SAME HANDED TO PORT HEALTH ON ARRIVAL





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#### DR NONHLANHLA SISHABA





## Suspected Communicable Disease on Board

A SENIOR AVIATION
DOCTOR, /A NURSE
IS ON STAND BY 24/7 FOR
All EMERGENCIES.



NOTIFICATION
COMES THROUGH
FROM THE AIRCRAFT
VIA OCC – SICK PAX ON BOARD

## COMMUNICATION BETWEEN SAA DR/NURSE OCC AND COMMANDER VIA SATCOM

#### DECISION IS MADE ON HISTORY RECEIVED FROM THE CABIN CREW

- A temperature above 38 degrees
   Celsius
- Appearing obviously unwell
- Persistent coughing
- Persistent diarrhoea
- Impaired breathing
- Persistent vomiting
- Skin rash
- Bruising or bleeding without previous injury
- Confusion of recent onset
- History of travel in last 21 days
  - If Suspicion is confirmed ERP is activated via OCC







### 1. AVIATION EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN ACTIVATED



2. MNORT Instructions Followed if Pax/Crew Hospitalized



### CREWMEMBER MANAGEMENT POST INCIDENT



- A GROUP DEBRIEFING
- GROUP POST COUNSELLING
- INDIVIDUALISED PROFESSIONAL POST COUNSELLING PRN

CREWMEMBER MEDICAL FILE DOCUMENTED

CONTINUED MONITORING/WELLNESS MANAGED

FITNESS TO RETURN ESTABLISHED

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## AIRLINE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PUBLIC HEALTH PLAN

**(OUTSTANDING SUBMITT SUNDAY)** 

#### **ZAMA NGUBANE**



### **THANK YOU**

