



COVID-19:
**GENERAL & BUSINESS AVIATION
BEST PRACTICES UPDATE
12 JUNE 2020**

EXPERT CARE, **EVERYWHERE.**

MEDAIRE OPERATIONS COVID EXPERIENCE

- ▶ **1759** total COVID related cases
1 March – ytd
- ▶ **381** Business & General Aviation cases:
 - Illness, Suspected COVID
 - Pre –planning advice/go no
 - Information, risk mitigation
 - Pilot and Crew – fitness for duty cases
 - Testing and Screening



BEST PRACTICES | MULTI-LAYERED APPROACH



Pre-Flight

- ▶ Destination risk assessments
- ▶ Contingency Plans
- ▶ Questionnaires
- ▶ Temp screening
- ▶ Testing
- ▶ Crew Health Protocols
- ▶ Crew Training
- ▶ Social Distancing
- ▶ PPE



In-Flight

- ▶ Social Distancing
- ▶ Face Coverings
- ▶ In Flight Meal Service
- ▶ Symptom Identification
- ▶ Case handling
 - Clinical
 - Isolation
 - PPEs
- ▶ Assistance in reportable case notification



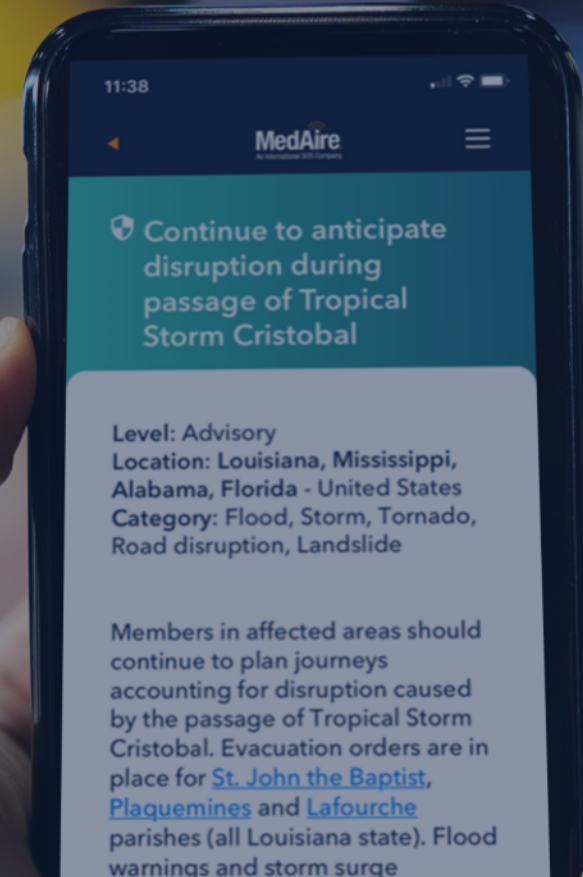
At Destination

- ▶ Coordination of medical attention
- ▶ Arrange Testing
- ▶ Report case to authorities
- ▶ Disinfection
- ▶ Crew and Passenger precautions at destination

PRE FLIGHT MEASURES

Utilise a flight risk assessment to quantify risk elements:

- Necessity of trip
- Length of trip
- Health and safety risks at destination
- Number of passengers
- Passenger health and risk factors
- Crew and passenger interaction
- Ground transportation
- Overnight lodging
- Off duty exposure
- Mental health considerations - distraction, stress, fatigue
- Contingency plan



PRE FLIGHT SCREENING

Multi Layered Approach:

- Pre-flight questionnaires
- Travel History
- Symptom/ Temperature Check

Question #6

Have you been in contact with anyone with known or suspected COVID-19 or traveled to a COVID-19 affected area within the last 14 days?

COVID-19 close contacts

Choose an answer:

No

Yes

Back

Question #6

Have you been advised by a healthcare provider to self quarantine due to a COVID-19 reason?

COVID-19 Quarantine

Choose an answer:

No

Yes

Back Next

PRE FLIGHT TESTING

- **Tests for Virus** - Currently, there is no practical solution for the use of molecular tests immediately pre-flight.
- **Tests for Antibodies** - tests obtained in isolation are not useful to ascertain infectivity and therefore of very limited utilisation in an immediate pre-flight setting.
- **Best practice today:** includes a combination of travel, health and thermal screening and monitoring, where testing may act as an adjunct

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Social distancing is the most effective way to break the chain of transmission of the coronavirus.
- Social distancing practices should be practiced throughout the travel experience - begin pre-flight at the airport/FBO.
- Crewmembers should practice social distancing everywhere possible - to avoid crew to crew and pax to crew exposure.

FACE COVERINGS

- ▶ Face coverings are recommended for pre-boarding area, and in flight if passengers are travelling with a group beyond immediate family.
- ▶ Face coverings should never replace social distancing but be used in addition to it.
- ▶ Crews should use face coverings whenever in public, including when greeting passengers boarding the aircraft.



CREW HEALTH

- Crew health monitoring is an essential component in ensuring COVID-19 free operations.
- The best approach is a multi-layered structured programme:
 - ▶ Crew education and safety training - prevention and mitigation measures – social distancing and face covering practices both at home, in-flight and during layovers.
 - ▶ Application of pre-mission questionnaires screening for symptoms & contact history around potential or proven COVID-19 cases.
 - ▶ Testing – serological and molecular testing as needed



IN FLIGHT

- Avoid seating in a face-to-face position onboard.
- Minimize Interactions between crew and passengers.
- Passengers should wear face coverings.
- Crews should wear face coverings.
- The use of masks by cockpit crew during the flight is debatable at this point.



IN FLIGHT – SUSPECTED CASE

- The risk of in-flight transmission of COVID-19 appears low.
- MedLink should be contacted anytime a case of infectious disease is suspected.
- The suspected case(s) should use a mask and be isolated from others by 6ft if possible.
- Crewmembers interacting with a suspected case should use full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).



POST FLIGHT MEASURES

- Suspected in-flight cases of COVID-19 will require further medical evaluation upon arrival.
- Assist in alerting all individuals who shared a flight with that individual or have interacted with them at the workplace.
- Follow [CDC guidelines for contact tracing](#).
- Report to airport authorities.



DISINFECTION

- Current knowledge suggests there is no need for additional air filtration measures or utilisation of devices aimed to clean aircraft cabin.
- Disinfection strategies should be based on risk assessment after each flight.
- Utilise products as recommended by aircraft manufacturers, such as those based on isopropyl alcohol or chloroxylenol.



SUMMARY

- ▶ Situation continues to evolve – recommendations continue to evolve in step.
- ▶ New solutions in process - screening measures, passenger and crew testing protocols.
- ▶ We are here to help and problem solve alongside you.



▶ **QUESTIONS?**