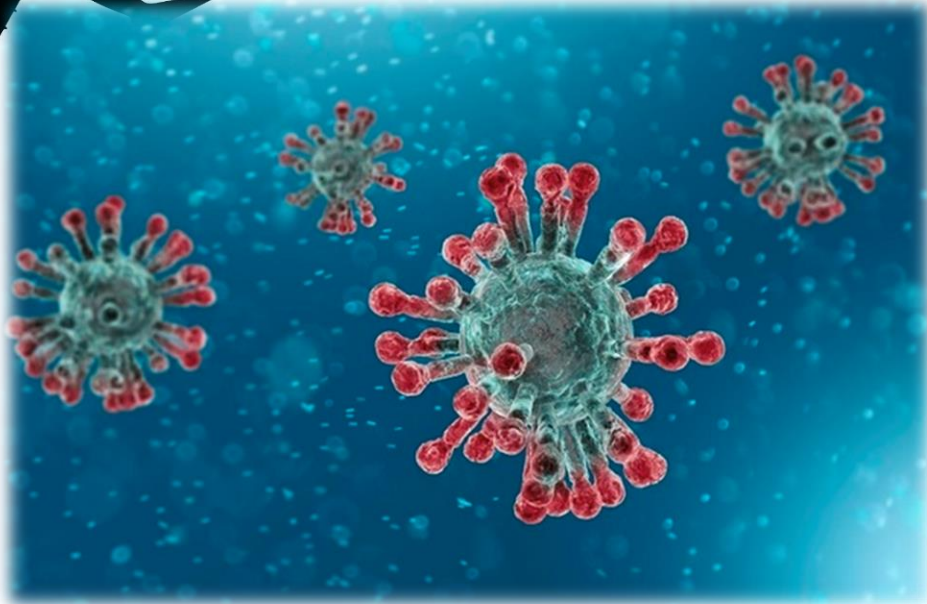


Directorate General of Civil Aviation

**CIVIL AVIATION
SAFETY PUBLICATION
Novel Coronavirus**



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CIVIL AVIATION SAFETY PUBLICATION

Novel Coronavirus

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2. INTRODUCTION

What is Coronavirus?

Coronaviruses are a type of virus that can affect humans and animals. Some coronaviruses cause illness similar to the common cold while other coronaviruses cause more serious illness, such as Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is primarily affecting people who have recently been in Infected countries or had direct contact with infected people.

What are the Symptoms of COVID-19?

Symptoms of COVID-19 may include fever, cough, sore throat, exhaustion, sever sweating and difficulty breathing. (may be similar to other flue type virus)

Difficulty in breathing is a sign of possible pneumonia and requires immediate medical attention.

3. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Safety Publication is to provide information to airport operators, aircraft operators, pilots, cabin crew and airport staff regarding actions that should be taken when transporting infected or potentially infected passengers.

It also provides guidance on recommended precautions and reporting actions.

4. APPLICABILITY

This guidance applies to all Kuwait based Air Traffic Service Providers (ATSPs),

Airport Operators and Aircraft Operators.

5. WHAT ARE AIRCRAFT REQUIRED TO REPORT?

All aircraft entering territory of the State of Kuwait are legally required to report ill passengers and crew on the pre-arrival report (GD). DGCA has a plane already implemented to deal with such situations and has been published on the CAPSCA website (ICAO subsidiary), involving all stakeholders related to airport activity (Airlines, ATC, MCC, OCC and Facilitation) where information shall be passed to the Ministry of Health airport clinic which will then meet the aircraft to screen for COVID-19 and other infectious human diseases. Directions for the management (Quarantine) of a suspected case of COVID-19 will be decided accordingly.

6. INFORMATION AVAILABLE FOR PASSENGERS AND CREW

Kuwait DGCA provided brochures stands to airport visitors in association with Ministry of Health providing additional communication material for travellers (including passengers and crew) at Kuwait international Airport. This material informs travellers about COVID-19 and how to protect themselves against being infected, what to do if they have come from a risk area and are ill or become ill.

7. REDUCE THE RISK TO PASSENGERS AND CREW

Crew are advised to continue to follow ICAO and IATA instructions on how to deal with ill passengers on-board an aircraft when in contact with ill passengers, including the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as recommended by ICAO.

The following measures will help to reduce the risk of spread:

- a) Crew and passengers should be encouraged to practise good hand hygiene and good sneeze/cough hygiene:
 - Wash their hands often with soap and water, or use an alcohol-based hand-rub, before and after eating as well as after going to the toilet; and
 - Cover their nose and mouth (with your elbow or tissue) when coughing and sneezing, dispose of the tissue and use an alcohol-based hand-rub.

- b) Avoid touching their mouth, eyes, and nose with unwashed or gloved hands.
- c) Crew should use appropriate PPE and universal kit if close contact with an ill passenger is required.
- d) If PPE is used, it should be fitted and worn properly.
- e) Airlines should ensure appropriate cleaning and disinfection activities are undertaken between each flight.

8. ACTION IF A PASSENGER OR CREW MEMBER IS ILL

8.1 If possible, ill passengers (and their close personal contacts e.g., family members) or crew experiencing fever, sweats or chills, runny nose, sore throat or cough should:

- a) Be separated from other travellers as a precaution, with at least one spare seat on either side or a window seat with a spare seat next to them. Ideally, the row should be kept empty.
- b) Be given a surgical mask to wear; and
- c) Be allocated a specific toilet for use of affected passengers/crew only.

8.2 Crew Members should:

- a) Wear gloves when handling and receiving items from affected passengers.
- b) Ensure removal of gloves before touching other persons or any surfaces.
- c) Use an alcohol-based hand-rub following removal of gloves and contact with any persons or surfaces.
- d) Use appropriate PPE if close contact with an ill passenger or their bodily fluids is required; and collect all used infected material in a biohazard bag.
- e) Ensure ground officials are notified.

9. WHAT PPE ARE PILOTS AND FLIGHT CREW REQUIRED TO WEAR?

Airline crew and pilots are not routinely required to wear any additional PPE for the duration of any flight.

- a) If a crew member is required to assist a passenger (and their close personal contacts) who is ill, the crew member should:
- Wear a surgical mask, disposable full-length gown, gloves and eye protection.
 - Remove any PPE carefully (without touching the front of mask, gown or outside of gloves) to avoid self-contamination.
 - Dispose of used PPE carefully in biohazard bags and use an alcohol-based hand-rub immediately after tying the bag tightly closed; and
 - Wear gloves to clean and then disinfect surrounding surfaces with a broad-spectrum disinfectant.
- b) When cleaning lavatories used by ill passengers or surfaces visibly contaminated with body fluids, crew members should:
- Wear a surgical mask, disposable full-length gown, gloves and eye protection.
 - Clean and then disinfect surrounding surfaces with a broad-spectrum disinfectant.
 - Remove any PPE carefully (without touching the front of mask, gown or outside of gloves) to avoid self-contamination; and
 - Dispose of used PPE carefully in biohazard bags and use an alcohol-based hand-rub immediately after tying the bag tightly closed.

10. OTHER INFORMATION

While COVID-19 is of concern, it is important to remember that it is currently influenza season in our area. It is likely that the majority of travellers displaying infectious symptoms have a common respiratory infection, rather than COVID-19. However, COVID-19 vigilance is important.

11. GUIDANCE FOR CREW IN CASE OF OVERLAY:

- Arrange to move crewmembers as a group between the airport and hotel aboard private ground transport that has sanitized in advance. Advise crew to avoid public transport unless it is an emergency.
- Arrange to house flight crew in hotels that are in close proximity to the airport. Ensure that the hotel rooms are sanitized in advance of the crews, arrival.
- Encourage crew to:
 - Avoid contact with sick people.
 - Stay in their hotel rooms.
 - Minimize going out into general population.
 - Use social distancing (maintain a distance approximately two meters (2m), if possible).
 - Avoid crowds, stores, sporting or mass entertainment events and other situations likely to attract large number of people.
 - Eat within their hotel rooms with either room service or delivery service. If in-room dining option aren't available, they should eat at restaurants located in the hotel. If not available at the hotel, they should eat at a restaurant located close to the hotel.

12. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further updates and Information can be obtained from the Kuwait Ministry of Health, Kuwait DGCA and the World Health Organisation Websites.

Links:

[Kuwait Ministry of Health \(MOH\)](#)

[Kuwait DGCA ASD website](#)

[World Health Organisation \(WHO\)](#)

[Management of a communicable disease affecting travellers in transit Presentation](#)

13. Attachment

