15 September 2020

PRE-DEPARTURE COVID-19 POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION (PCR) TEST REQUIREMENT FOR INBOUND PASSENGERS FROM INDIA

In view of the resurgence of COVID-19 infections in India and the significant number of imported cases with recent travel history to India, the Singapore Ministry of Health (MOH) has put in place further precautionary measures to reduce the risk of importation of cases from India.

Additional Entry Requirement for Passengers with Travel History to India

2   With effect from 17 September 2020, 0000 hours, all passengers, who have recent travel history to India within the last 14 days prior to entry into Singapore, will be required to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours[1] before their departure. This requirement does not apply to passengers, who are: (i) aged 12 and below, or (ii) Singapore Citizens, or (iii) Singapore Permanent Residents.

3   Air operators operating flights from India to Singapore must check for a valid negative COVID-19 PCR test result before allowing the passenger to board. The test result memo must be from recognised laboratories in India that are internationally accredited or recognised by the Indian Government. It must also be in English, and state the following:

   i.   the test result;
   ii. the date that the test was taken; and
   iii. the name, date of birth, nationality and passport number of the passenger as indicated in his/her passport.

4   If the passenger's test result is positive, air operators must check if the passenger has recovered from a past diagnosis of COVID-19. For this, the passenger must produce his/her first ever positive COVID-19 PCR test result memo, which must be in English and state the name, date of birth and nationality of the passenger, and the date that the test was taken. The passenger is allowed boarding if the date of that first ever positive COVID-19 PCR test result is **between 22 and 180 days**[2] prior to the date of arrival in Singapore.

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[1] For example, if the test is taken on 27 September 2020, the traveller must depart before 30 September 2020. For ease of implementation, the departure date of the passenger is taken as the scheduled date of departure of the flight.

[2] If the scheduled day of departure of the flight is D, the traveller must have obtained his or her first ever positive COVID-19 PCR test result from D-22 to D-180 (inclusive of D-22 and D-180). For example, if the scheduled day of departure of the flight is 30 September 2020, the date of the passenger's first ever positive COVID-19 PCR test result must be between 3 April 2020 and 8 September 2020 (inclusive of 3 April 2020 and 8 September 2020).

5   Air operators should remind passengers that if they are found to have produced false or forged COVID-19 test certificates, it will affect their ability to obtain or sponsor Singapore immigration facilities in the future.

6   Please note that the requirement to take a COVID-19 PCR test within 72 hours before departure from India is on top of other existing entry requirements for inbound travellers from India. For more information on the entry requirements, please refer to the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA) website: https://www.ica.gov.sg/covid-19.

7   Existing Not-To-Land (NTL) policies and procedures will apply for passengers who are denied entry into Singapore if they do not meet Singapore's entry requirements.

8   Please refer to MOH's press release dated 9 September in **Annex A** for more information. The related Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) can be found at https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19/faqs.

9   Information on the additional entry requirement for passengers with travel history to India will be updated in the IATA Timatic service.

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