



No. 30.31.0000.113.22.011.19-357

Date: 01 July 2020

CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTIVE (CAD-AIR) 11/2020

Subject: Directive for Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) Operations for COVID Patient.

1. Due to the current concern regarding the pandemic of the COVID-19, further to the guideline given for Air Operators on preventing the spread of COVID-19 through Civil Aviation Circular (CAC-GEN) 01/2020 (dated 10 May 2020), following directive shall be complied by all the HEMS operators for transporting COVID positive patients. All operators shall prepare their own SOP/Procedure Manual in reference to this directive and get the approval of CAAB to ensure an acceptable level of safety is maintained at all times.

- a. No flights with COVID-19 positive patient on board shall be allowed to operate to/from any airports.
- b. Embarkations and disembarkations of COVID-19 positive patient shall be done either from Hospital to Hospital landing sites, or from designated landing site to Hospital landing site, or from one designated landing site to another designated landing site.
- c. Crew staff detailing shall be on voluntary basis while conducting HEMS operation for COVID positive patient. The list of dedicated crew/staff shall be intimated to CAAB.
- d. Flight crew shall not assist in the loading or unloading of any confirmed positive COVID-19 patients and shall adhere to the "Special Guidelines for Helicopter Operators" given in the Civil Aviation Circular (CAC-GEN) 01/2020.
- e. A separate COVID-19 HEMS Team for handling COVID-19 positive patient consist of aircrew, aircraft technician, Ventilator /Isolation Chamber operator, doctor/ Paramedic/ nurse/ Health Care giver, departure /arrival staff, ambulance staff shall be arranged and such team shall not be allowed to work in other helicopters.
- f. In continuation of HEMS flight, a flight crew/staff from such a team shall only be allowed to do their respective routine job anytime if found COVID-19 negative through PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) test from Government approved institutions/hospitals. However, without such test, a flight crew/staff shall also be allowed to do their respective routine activities if individual after keep himself isolated for 14 days from the handling a COVID-19 positive patient.
- g. Exclusive helicopter to be designated for transporting COVID-19 patient. This helicopter shall not be used for other missions without the permission of CAAB.
- h. The operator may swap/change the crew/staffs of COVID-19 HEMS Team as per the procedure mentioned in serial 1(f) with the intimation to CAAB.

- i. A separator shall be used in the cockpit to ensure separation of flight crew from the passengers and patient.
- j. COVID-19 positive patient shall be transported only by Isolation chamber available in the helicopter. Temporary provision of the placement of the isolation chamber shall be approved/accepted by CAAB and registered Doctor.
- k. Standard Helicopter disinfection procedure shall be completed at the designated landing site before recovering to HSIA. All operators are required to submit a "Certificate of Disinfection" (as per attached form) to CAAB after completion of each flight.
- l. All concern crew/technicians/staffs shall adhere to the cleaning processes and hygiene practices mentioned in the Civil Aviation Circular (CAC-GEN) 01/2020 to ensure risk of transmitting COVID-19 at a minimum.
- m. Appropriate security around the Pickup/Drop site shall be ensured by operator.
- n. Existing standard flight approval procedure for MEDEVAC operations shall be followed for COVID-19 HEMS operations. In addition, the flight clearance application shall clearly indicate that the flight is a "COVID-19 flight" and "NOCs" are taken from both embarkation/disembarkation places.
- o. Air operator shall ensure that all the personnel of COVID-19 HEMS team gets free testing and treatment for medically-necessary services if found COVID-19 positive within 14 days of any COVID-19 patient flight.
- p. Helicopter operators willing to carry out such HEMS operations for COVID-19 positive patient shall apply to Chairman, CAAB (Attention to Member, FSR) for permission. The application should include the following documents:
- (1) Helicopter Type and Registration number;
 - (2) SOP for COVID-19 flights including special disinfection and cleaning procedure;
 - (3) Particulars of COVID-19 HEMS Team;
 - (4) Treatment Guarantee Certificate (as per attached form) for COVID-19 HEMS Team.

2. This directive shall come into force with immediate effect. Notwithstanding any other circular, directives, order or any text of any other CAAB documents (promulgated on subject matter issue) contrary with this directive, the contents of this directive shall prevail. However, the instructions/guidelines promulgated (on the subject matter) by any other documents of CAAB shall be retained in a nature that the status of the other documents shall not be treated as repealed.



Air Vice Marshal M Mafidur Rahman, BSP, BUP, ndu, afwc, psc
Chairman
Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh

Attachment of (CAD-AIR) 11/2020

Sample of Certificate of Disinfection

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh

CERTIFICATE OF DISINFECTION

This is to certify that (name of operator).....
Aircraft Registration No.....Flight No.....
Route.....Date.....Time.....AM/PM was
disinfected with CAAB/WHO/Manufacture's recommended disinfectant in the passenger cabin,
cockpit, all the interior surfaces of the helicopter including the cargo holds.

Date:.....

Signature.....

P.No.....

Name.....

Appointment.....

Attachment of (CAD-AIR) 11/2020

SAMPLE OF TREATMENT GUARANTEE CERTIFICATE

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh

TREATMENT GUARANTEE CERTIFICATE FOR COVID-19 HEMS TEAM

This is to certify that all the expenses of the COVID-19 related test and treatment shall be borne by the company itself for the flight/ground crew and concern staffs of COVID-19 HEMS Team if they become COVID-19 positive within 14 days of any COVID-19 flight.

Date:.....



Signature.....
Name of the Accountable Manager.....
Company.....