



# COVID-19 Update for MEs

No. 4/2020

An important update from the Civil Aviation  
Authority Aviation Medicine Team

June 2020

Dear Colleague,

Here is another update from the CAA Medical Team.

## CAA Restructuring

You will be aware of the CAA major restructuring undertaken over the past 6 months. We can now confirm that this is not impacting on the Medical Team at this stage. There have been changes of leadership however;

- Shelley Turner is acting DCA /CEO
- Dean Winter is acting Deputy Director Aviation Safety (read General Manager)
- David Harrison, CAA Principal Aviation Examiner, is our new Manager from 1 July 2020

The rest of the Team is unchanged with advisors, team leader and medical officers retaining their roles.

## Medical Team availability:

The Team is now back in the office and work has returned to normal.

## Enquiries to CAA:

Please send all ME enquiries to [med@caa.govt.nz](mailto:med@caa.govt.nz). This should result in a prompter response as we have a Duty Doctor rostered daily to deal with all enquiries.

## Furloughed pilots complying with O20 conditions:

These participants or their ME should contact CAA if conditions cannot be met. We will assess these requests on a case by case basis.

## Process for removal of Colour Vision Restrictions:

As long as requirements are met, ME's can remove colour vision restrictions on certificates if an eligible certificate holder requires it. To remove colour vision restrictions, please refer to the following flowchart.

<https://www.aviation.govt.nz/assets/licensing-and-certification/medical/colour-vision-assessment-guidance.pdf>

- The expiry date(s) on the certificate are unchanged
- The date signed is the date you sign the amended certificate
- Please complete an amended MAR and send to CAA a copy of the documentation including the tests results on which you have based your decision

Please do not hesitate to contact CAA if you require clarification on tests interpretation or the process.

## AMC - Identification of Experts:

Please indicate clearly on your request form if you are able and willing to be expert. This helps CAA deciding on the expert(s)

## AMC - Invoices:

If you are invoicing CAA for AMC work, please ensure you state the client ID on your invoices.

## AMC - Completion of Assessment following AMC:

There have been a few cases where an AMC has not been followed up by an assessment. Please include a MAR and a certificate (if the outcome is favourable). Ensure you advise the review options.

## Headache Investigation Report form change:

The form has been revised and used by a couple of ME's on a trial basis. The new form is now available on the CAA website and should be used from now on. We managed to reduce it to one page. Please advise us if you experience any problems.

<https://www.aviation.govt.nz/assets/forms/24067-215.pdf>

## Diabetes Report form change:

The old MOT Diabetes form has finally been disregarded and a new form created. The first page is for the applicant to complete. The participant can complete this ahead of visiting their ME, perhaps with help from their GP. The second page is to be completed by the ME.

<https://www.aviation.govt.nz/assets/forms/24067-216.pdf>

## Exemption to the 90 days GME time limit:

CAA rule 67.57(2) requires a participant to undergo a medical examination. The examinations have a 90 day validity period. Due to COVID-19, a small number of participants that had previously completed their examinations were unable to obtain their certificates before the 90 day validity period expired. This exemption allows ME's to rely on examinations that are more than 90 days but less than 150 days old.

<https://www.aviation.govt.nz/assets/rules/exemptions/20-exe-175.pdf>

## CAA – CME meeting

The CAA Aviation Medicine Team still hope to provide a one-day CME on Friday 11 September 2020 in Christchurch. This is on the day before the AMSNZ meeting. Venue to be confirmed.

We will appreciate receiving questions and suggestions to make the meeting as relevant as possible.

**Finally we wish you and your family good health and good spirit at this time.**

**Best regards from the Aviation Medicine Team**