



MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION
FEDERAL AIR TRANSPORT AGENCY

GUIDELINES
for a phased lifting of novel coronavirus epidemic response restrictions to
restore air passenger travel in civil aviation

Approved by the Federal Service for
the Surveillance in the Sphere of
Consumer's Rights Protection and
Public Welfare letter # 02/10029-
2020-23 dated 20 May 2020

Moscow
2020

The present guidelines have been developed by the Federal Air Transport Agency to promote recovery of air mobility in the Russian Federation and a phased lifting of epidemic response restrictions introduced to prevent the spread of novel coronavirus infection.

With due regard to the recommendations of the Federal Service for the Surveillance in the Sphere of Consumer's Rights Protection and Public Welfare (*Rospotrebnadzor*), a three-phased approach is proposed to eliminate COVID-19 restrictions with separate sets of requirements for passengers and air crews.

References:

Infectious diseases prevention. COVID-19 epidemiology and prevention. Methodological recommendations. (MR 3.1.0170-20. 3.1.) (approved by the Chief State Sanitary Doctor of the Russian Federation on 30 March 2020) (last updated on 30 April 2020);

Rospotrebnadzor official letter # 02/7373-2020-32 dated 20 April 2020, containing Recommendations for transport and transport enterprises functioning. (with Recommendations for transport and transport enterprises functioning under the risk of COVID-19 spreading);

Rospotrebnadzor official letter # 02/7376-2020-24 dated 20 April 2020, containing Recommendations for enterprises functioning under the risk of COVID-19 spreading. (with Recommendations for enterprises functioning under the persisting risk of COVID-19 spreading);

Rospotrebnadzor official letter # 02/9449-2020-23 dated 15 May 2020, containing Recommendations for prevention of infectious diseases spread;

World Health Organization's interim guidance "Management of ill travellers at points of entry – international airports, seaports and ground crossings – in the context of COVID-19 outbreak." dated 19 April 2020;

Procedural guidelines for sanitary and quarantine control at international airports. (MU 3.4.1180-02) (approved by the Chief State Sanitary Doctor of the Russian Federation on 05 December 2002).

General administrative and preventive activities, airport activities

Two risk levels (high and low) are defined for the airports to manage COVID-19 spreading and prevent domestic secondary outbreaks.

An airport is considered at high risk in terms of epidemic prevention and control when passengers arrive by the flights operated from severely affected countries (regions) (with over 50,000 confirmed disease cases).

Differentiated measures of disease prevention and control are applied at airports depending on the risk level. These risk levels are subject to regular update based on the disease course.

The phased approach to lift the restrictions is developed based on the indicators available for the territory (area) where the airport is located, as specified in the Methodological recommendations MR 3.1.0178-20 approved by the Head of the Federal Service for the Surveillance in the Sphere of Consumer's Rights Protection and Public Welfare.

For the airports located in the city of Moscow and Moscow region the phases are established based on the worst indicator of two territories (areas) of the Russian Federation.

Personal hygiene requirements are established for air crew members – regular handwashing, hand sanitising, face masks and gloves wearing, etc.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) for air crew members, such as face masks and gloves, shall be available on board as needed.

The amount of face masks available for passengers on board shall be determined based on the number of passengers, flight duration and the requirement to change the masks every three hours.

Table 1 below lists the activities required for a phased lifting of restrictions.

Table 1

#	Activity	Plan				Results
		Present	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Expected outcome
1	2	3	4	4	5	7
1. General administrative and preventive activities						
1.1	Creating awareness of COVID-19 prevention	Active	Active	Active	Active	Aviation personnel is familiar with disease prevention and personal protection techniques.
1.2	Implementing social distancing for aviation enterprises and airport employees based on available infrastructure.	Active	Active (shall be cancelled if PPE (masks and gloves) is worn by all	Active (shall be cancelled if PPE (masks and gloves) is worn by all	Active (shall be cancelled if PPE (masks and gloves)	Maintaining a distance of 1.5 meters between employees in public places. Max. of 5 persons per a workspace of 50 sq.meters or less.

	<p>Creating conditions for employees social distancing.</p> <p>Avoiding gatherings at security check points, health posts etc.</p>		employees.	employees.	is worn by all employees.	<p>Max. of 10 persons per a workspace of 100 sq.meters or less.</p> <p>Max.of 25 persons per a workspace of 200 sq.meters or less.</p> <p>Max.of 50 persons per a workspace of over 200 sq.meters.</p>
1.3	Wearing face masks and gloves mandatory for aviation enterprise and airport employees.	Active	Active	Active	Active	All employees wear face masks and gloves at their workplaces. Masks are changed every three hours unless otherwise specified by the manufacturer.
1.4	<p>Implementing hand sanitising for aviation enterprise and airport employees.</p> <p>Making hand sanitisers available to employees.</p>	Active	Active	Active	Active	<p>Hand sanitisers are available for aviation enterprise and airport employees.</p> <p>Where practicable, hands are sanitised every three hours upon face mask replacement.</p>
2. Airport activities						
2.1	Informing passengers about the need to use personal protective equipment at the airport and on board	Active	Active	Active	Active	All passengers are informed about the need to use personal protective equipment at all times at the airport and on board
2.2	Informing about the need to minimise the number of accompanying persons in terminal buildings	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Minimum number of people at the airport
2.3	Informing about the prevention of long-term stay (> 2h) in terminal buildings, except for passengers (availability of travel documents is mandatory) and accompanying persons, as well as employees of entities operating within the airport	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Prevention of gatherings in terminal buildings

2.4	Providing passengers with access to sanitisers	Active	Active	Active	Active	Passengers have access to sanitisers
2.5	Creating conditions for social distancing, subject to infrastructural and technical capabilities, in places of potential passenger gathering, except for the cases when relevant recommendations cannot be implemented due to service technology, aviation and transport security requirements	Active	Active	Active	Active	Marking to facilitate social distancing in areas of potential passenger gathering
2.6	Establishing minimum staffing level at airports, including ground handling and third-party organisation personnel	Active	Active	Cancelled	Cancelled	Minimum staffing level at airports
2.7	Daily staff briefing on work principles during epidemiological situation.	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Airport staff is familiar with work principles during epidemiological situation and emergency procedures
2.8	Body temperature control of airport, ground handling and third-party organisation personnel	Active	Active	Active	Active	Monitoring airport personnel health status
2.9	Closure of catering services and shops at airports, except for take-away services and canteens for airport employees, provided that social distancing is maintained	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Elimination of potential areas of staff and passenger gathering

2.10	Thermometry with thermal imagers or infrared non-contact thermometers at terminal entrances (for passenger entrances)	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Thermometry with thermal imagers is carried out for all passengers entering federal and international airports. Individuals with high body temperature (>37) shall be denied entry into terminal facilities. Medical staff of airport health posts shall be notified of passengers with a high body temperature (>37).
2.11	Thermometry with non-contact thermometers at passenger entrances	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Thermal screening with non-contact thermometers for all persons entering airports of regional and local airlines
2.12	Mandatory body temperature control of crew members during the pre-flight medical examination. In case several flights are operated by the crew, body temperature control is carried out before each flight, with mandatory suspension from flying of crew members with a high body temperature (≥ 37) and with signs of an infectious disease.	Active	Active	Active	Active	Body temperature control of crew members is carried out during the pre-flight medical examination. In case several flights are operated by the crew, body temperature control is carried out before each flight.

2.13	Disposition of airport, airline personnel and visitors with due regard for social distancing recommendations, subject to infrastructural capabilities of the airport, except for the cases when these recommendations cannot be observed due to service technology and aviation and transport security requirements	Active	Active	Active	Active	Airport, airline employees and visitors are separated by a distance of no less than 1.5 metres from each other
2.14	Strengthening sanitary and quarantine control of aircraft and individuals arriving from foreign countries	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Employees of sanitary and quarantine units conduct sanitary and quarantine control for each arriving international flight. During Phase 3, sanitary and quarantine control is carried out in case of risks to sanitary and epidemiological wellbeing
2.15	Daily preventive cleaning of public airport areas with the use of sanitisers is carried out every 3h, 6h, 12h; frequent cleaning and disinfection of staff and public areas	Active	Active	Active	Active	Daily wet cleaning of airport public areas. Special attention is paid to the disinfection of handles, switches, handrails, railings, contact surfaces, and bathrooms.

2.16	Ensuring that passengers, visitors and staff can purchase personal protective equipment (masks, gloves, antiseptic gels, etc.) protecting from the infection	Active	Active	Active	Active	Personal protective equipment is available for purchase to passengers, visitors and staff both prior to departure and upon arrival in all areas of the airport, including the boarding area.
2.17	Strengthening control of air conditioning and natural ventilation systems at airports and on vehicles involved in passenger transportation	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Strengthened control of air conditioning and natural ventilation systems at airports. In case of mild outdoor temperature, doors and windows might be opened to improve natural ventilation.

General administrative and preventive measures for airlines

Based on the coronavirus infection spread at departure points (both for international and domestic flights), equipage of aircraft with high-performance air filters, and such indicators as load factor, flight time, special flight assignment and flights operated by cargo airlines, all flights can be divided into three levels: high, medium and low-risk flights.

Differentiated measures of disease prevention and control are applied depending on the risk level. These risk levels are subject to regular update based on the disease course.

The decision on a phased lifting of epidemic response restrictions is made by the airline CEO based on regional restrictions and the flight risk level.

Table 2 below lists the activities required for a phased lifting of restrictions.

Table 2

#	Activity	Plan				Results
		Present	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Expected outcome
3. Pre- and in-flight activities						
3.1.	Use of face masks and gloves, hand sanitising with disinfectants when entering the aircraft and during the flight by air crews and passengers	Active	Active	Active	Active	Air crews and passengers use face masks and gloves and sanitise their hands with disinfectants when entering the aircraft and during the flight. Hands are sanitised when changing a face mask, eating, visiting the lavatory. Face masks are provided by the operator. Passengers without facemasks are not allowed on board.
3.2	Use of a non-contact thermometer to measure passengers' body temperature in case of symptoms of an infectious disease.	Active	Active	Active	Active	If a passenger develops symptoms of an infectious disease, the cabin crew follows the operator's instructions and informs the appropriate destination airport officials.
3.3	Providing onboard non-contact or digital (clinical) thermometers	Active	Active	Active	Active	Non-contact or digital thermometers are available on board. Amount of personal protective equipment is determined based on the number of passengers and crew members, flight duration and the requirement to change masks every three hours.
3.4	Use of personal protective equipment by crew members having direct contact with passengers	Active	Active	Active	Active	Crew members having direct contact with passengers on board during the flight wear gloves, face masks and change them at least every three hours.

3.5	Use of disposable tableware. Storage of all waste in disposable tightly closed plastic bags	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	Waste is stored in disposable, tightly sealed plastic bags.
3.6	Preventive aircraft disinfection before every flight	Active	Active	Active	Active	Preventive aircraft disinfection with virucidal agents is carried out before any flight or at the end of a flight by ground handling staff who have undergone thermometry and use personal protective equipment. Special attention is paid to the disinfection of handles, switches, handrails, and contact surfaces. Disinfection of kitchen and lavatory facilities is carried out by cabin crew every two hours of the flight.
3.7	Preventive pre-flight disinfection of aircraft flight deck controls	Active	Active	Active	Active	The cockpit crew carries out pre-flight preventive disinfection of the flight deck controls in accordance with the aircraft manufacturer's recommendations.
4. Preventive measures for airport transportation						
4.1	Social distancing in vehicles. Disinfection of vehicles. Providing drivers with face masks and gloves	Active	Active	Active	Active	Increase of bus traffic in order to avoid crowding in vehicles. Vehicle disinfection is carried out daily. Contact surfaces (suspension belts, handrails, seats) are thoroughly disinfected.
5. Crew transportation and rest						
5.1	Air crew members transportation from/to airports	Active	Active	Active	Active	Prevent (if possible) the use of public transportation by air crew members to commute to/from an airport. If it is impossible to provide corporate transportation, the use of face masks and gloves in public transport is mandatory.

5.2	Transportation of air crew members to temporary accommodation facilities	Active	Active	Active	Active	Air crew members are transported to temporary accommodation facilities in an organised manner with preliminary disinfection of the vehicle before each crew is picked up. No stops without reasonable excuse are allowed, including visiting shops, markets, shopping centres, and leisure facilities.
5.3	Sharing of temporary accommodation facilities by air crew members with other persons is prohibited.	Active	Active	Active	Cancelled	In case it is required to provide accommodation to the air crew during deadheading, pre-flight rest, flight delay, scheduled break in duty, etc., arrangements shall be made to prevent sharing of temporary accommodation facilities by air crew members with other persons.

Preventive measures for civil aviation air crews enabling a phased lifting of epidemic response restrictions

Phase 1.

1. A pilot-in-command shall monitor the health status of air crew members. A pilot-in-command shall ensure that all crew members have undergone a pre-flight medical examination, including by reviewing thermometry records from the pre-flight medical examination log completed by a health professional. Crew members with a temperature of 37 °C or above shall be suspended from flying.

2. When entering on board an aircraft, all crew members shall sanitise their gloved hands with single-use antiseptic wipes, which are thereafter disposed of into a special container.

3. Air crews shall use personal protective equipment (face masks, gloves) and maintain social distancing at all times during pre-flight and post-flight preparations (briefing, debriefing, aircraft visual inspection and loading, execution of documentation).

4. During all types of preparatory activities (pre-flight, post-flight), required flight documentation shall be passed to the pilot-in-command through a designated cabin crew member. In case direct interaction between the pilot-in-command and aircraft handling staff is required, all such contacts shall be made via the aircraft intercom system or outside of the cockpit while wearing protective equipment (face mask and gloves) and maintaining social distancing. A pilot-in-command shall remove personal protective equipment (face mask and gloves) and sanitise their hands with a hand antiseptic product immediately upon entry into the cockpit.

5. Air crew members shall not wear masks and gloves while flying an aircraft, but they shall mandatorily use a disinfectant to sanitise their hands.

6. In case a cabin crew member needs to enter the cockpit, they shall change their face mask and gloves and use a disinfectant prior to entering the cockpit.

7. Face masks and gloves are mandatory for cabin crew. Masks shall be changed, and gloved hands sanitised with antiseptic products no less than once in every three hours, as well as after every physical contact with a passenger or in case the integrity of gloves is compromised.

8. A cockpit crew member shall use personal protective equipment (face mask and gloves) when leaving the cabin, as well as in case of contact with a passenger. After returning to the cockpit, a cockpit crew member shall remove personal protective equipment and sanitise their hands with a disinfectant.

9. After the flight has been completed and passengers have left the aircraft, the pilot-in-command shall monitor the health status of crew members, including via a report from the chief flight attendant.

10. Prior to the flight, air crews shall be familiarised with epidemic response restrictions in place at the flight destination.

11. During their duty trip (or deadheading), air crew members shall strictly comply with the requirements implemented at the place of their sojourn both before and after the flight, with predominantly more demanding requirements for individuals permanently residing in those areas. Use of public transportation is not allowed; individual transportation while wearing personal protective equipment (face masks, gloves) shall be used instead. Crew members shall abstain from leaving their temporary accommodation facilities, including for shopping and leisure purposes.

12. During all relocations within the place of their temporary sojourn, crew members shall use personal protective equipment and maintain social distancing, including while eating.

Phase 2.

1. A pilot-in-command shall monitor the health status of air crew members. A pilot-in-command shall ensure that all crew members have undergone a pre-flight medical examination, including by reviewing thermometry records from the pre-flight medical examination log completed by a health professional. Crew members with a temperature of 37 °C or above shall be suspended from flying.

2. When entering on board an aircraft, all crew members shall sanitise their gloved hands with single-use antiseptic wipes, which are thereafter disposed of into a special container.

3. Air crews shall use personal protective equipment (masks, gloves) and maintain social distancing at all times during pre-flight and post-flight preparations (briefing, debriefing, aircraft visual inspection and loading, execution of documentation).

4. During all types of preparatory activities (pre-flight, post-flight), required flight documentation shall be passed to the pilot-in-command through a designated cabin crew member. In case direct interaction between the pilot-in-command and aircraft handling staff is required, all such contacts shall be made via the aircraft intercom system or outside of the cockpit while wearing protective equipment (face mask and gloves) and maintaining social distancing. A pilot-in-command shall remove personal protective equipment (face mask and gloves) and sanitise their hands with a hand antiseptic product immediately upon entry into the cockpit.

5. Air crew members shall not wear masks and gloves while flying an aircraft, but they shall mandatorily use a disinfectant to sanitise their hands.

6. In case a cabin crew member needs to enter the cockpit, they shall change their face mask and gloves and use a disinfectant prior to entering the cockpit.

7. Face masks and gloves are mandatory for cabin crew. Masks shall be changed, and gloved hands sanitised with antiseptic products no less than once in every three hours, as well as after every physical contact with a passenger or in case the integrity of gloves is compromised.

8. A cockpit crew member shall use personal protective equipment (face mask and gloves) when leaving the cabin, as well as in case of contact with a passenger. After returning to the cockpit, a cockpit crew member shall remove personal protective equipment and sanitise their hands with a disinfectant.

9. After the flight has been completed and passengers have left the aircraft, the pilot-in-command shall monitor the health status of crew members, including via a report from the chief flight attendant.

10. During their duty trip (or deadheading), air crew members shall strictly comply with the requirements implemented at the place of their sojourn both before and after the flight, with predominantly more demanding requirements for individuals permanently residing in those areas. Use of public transportation is not allowed; individual transportation while wearing personal protective equipment (face masks, gloves) shall be used instead. Crew members shall abstain from leaving their temporary accommodation facilities, including for shopping and leisure purposes.

11. During all relocations within the place of their temporary sojourn, crew members shall use personal protective equipment and maintain social distancing, including while eating.

Phase 3.

1. A pilot-in-command shall monitor the health status of air crew members. A pilot-in-command shall ensure that all crew members have undergone a pre-flight medical examination, including by reviewing thermometry records from the pre-flight medical examination log completed by a health professional. Crew members with a temperature of 37 °C or above shall be suspended from flying.

2. Flight attendants shall wear face masks and gloves at all times throughout a flight in case a passenger is found on board with a high temperature and symptoms of an infectious disease.

3. In the event there is a passenger on board with a high temperature and symptoms of an infectious disease, cockpit crew members shall use personal protective equipment (face mask and gloves) when leaving the cabin, as well as in case of contact with a passenger.

4. In the event there is a passenger on board with a high temperature and symptoms of an infectious disease, a designated cabin crew member shall change their face mask and gloves prior to entering the cockpit when required.

5. After the flight has been completed and passengers have left the aircraft, the pilot-in-command shall monitor the health status of crew members.
6. All personal hygiene recommendations and infectious disease prevention measures shall be met.

Preventive measures for civil aviation passengers enabling a phased lifting of epidemic response restrictions

Phase 1.

1. Passengers are allowed on board an aircraft provided that they wear face masks and gloves, which they are not permitted to remove throughout the flight. On flights longer than three hours, a scheduled mask replacement shall be facilitated by flight attendants, who collect used face masks from passengers and distribute new ones instead. Used masks shall be placed into an airtight container for further decontamination and disposal.

2. In the cabin, passengers shall remove their outer garments and place them into overhead bins, except for air operations in regions with negative outside temperatures and depending on aircraft type. Passengers are not allowed to take out outer garments during the flight without reasonable excuse and notification of a cabin crew member.

3. During boarding and disembarkation, passengers shall maintain social distancing, with allowances made for airport infrastructural capabilities.

4. Non-contact thermal screening shall be performed at boarding control or during embarkation; passengers with a high body temperature shall be denied access on board. When entering on board an aircraft, passengers shall sanitise their gloved hands with single-use antiseptic wipes, which are thereafter disposed of into a special container. Once full, the container shall be sealed and passed on to airport ground handlers for decontamination and disposal.

5. Movement around the cabin shall be restricted, except when a passenger needs to use the lavatory. The "Fasten seat belts" mode shall remain in place throughout the flight.

6. The queue to the lavatory shall be monitored by a flight attendant to ensure social distancing and "Fasten seat belts" mode requirements are met.

7. In-flight meals shall either be individually packaged and sealed or reheated on board. Cold drinks supplied on board shall be individually packaged. Hot and cold drinks shall be served to passengers in-flight in individual disposable cups.

8. Passengers are only allowed to bring on board pre-packaged food and drinks (including baby food) with intact packaging.

Phase 2.

1. Passengers are allowed on board an aircraft provided that they wear face masks and gloves, which they are not permitted to remove throughout the flight. On flights longer than three hours, a scheduled mask replacement shall be facilitated by flight attendants, who collect used face masks from passengers and distribute new ones instead. Used masks shall be placed into an airtight container for further decontamination and disposal.

2. In the cabin, passengers shall remove their outer garments and place them into overhead bins, except for air operations in regions with negative outside temperatures and depending on aircraft type. Passengers are not allowed to take out outer garments during the flight without reasonable excuse and notification of a cabin crew member.

3. During boarding and disembarkation, passengers shall maintain social distancing, with allowances made for airport infrastructural capabilities.

4. Non-contact thermal screening shall be performed at boarding control or during embarkation; passengers with a high body temperature shall be denied access on board. When entering on board an aircraft, passengers shall sanitise their gloved hands with non-reusable antiseptic wipes, which are thereafter disposed of into a special container. Once full, the container shall be sealed and passed on to airport ground handlers for decontamination and disposal.

5. Restrictions on movements around the cabin shall remain in place, except when a passenger needs to use the lavatory. The "Fasten seat belts" mode shall be used as usual.

6. The queue to the lavatory shall be monitored by a flight attendant to ensure social distancing requirements are met.

7. In-flight meals shall either be individually packaged and sealed or reheated on board. Cold drinks supplied on board shall be individually packaged. Hot and cold drinks shall be served to passengers in-flight in individual disposable cups.

8. Passengers are only allowed to bring on board pre-packaged food and drinks (including baby food) with intact packaging.

Phase 3.

1. Boarding shall be performed as usual without any limitations.
2. Non-contact thermometry at the security screening line or during embarkation shall be cancelled.
3. The "Fasten seat belts" mode shall be used as usual.
4. Limitations on use of the lavatory are lifted.

5. Normal in-flight food services are recovered.

6. Passengers shall wear face masks and gloves at all times throughout a flight in case a passenger is found on board with a high temperature and symptoms of an infectious disease.