



Epidemiology Unit

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Interim guidance for Sri Lankan flights to and from China

Instructions to be given to all passengers boarding from China

The following instructions should be given to passengers by the flight crew:

1. Inform the flight crew if a passenger is suffering from any symptom of an acute respiratory infection (e.g. fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, breathing difficulties).
2. Clean hands properly with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub, especially after using the washroom.
3. Avoid touching mouth, eyes, and nose as much as possible.
4. Discard facemasks in to the yellow bag provided after use.
5. Fill the Health Declaration Form that will be given to passengers on the flight clearly and completely and make sure to hand over to health staff/immigration staff at the airport
6. Monitor their health status after arriving in Sri Lanka for a period of 14 days. Instruct them to watch for the development of any of the following symptoms of an acute respiratory infection (e.g. fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat, breathing difficulties) and seek immediate medical care if they develop any of these symptoms.

Instructions to flight crew

1. All crew members should be made aware of infection control measures and techniques
2. Keep several fixed alcohol hand rubs in different cabins and in washrooms
3. Display clear hand washing instructions at washrooms.

4. Keep an adequate amount of basic Personnel Protective Equipment on board to be used when required E.g. Surgical masks and gloves

Take spill management kit with each flight. This includes commercially available bleach solution, absorbent material (wadding), tongs, dustpans, yellow bags

5. Instruct passengers to inform if they have symptoms of an acute respiratory infection (e.g. fever, cough, running nose, sore throat, breathing difficulties)
6. Provide surgical masks for passengers with respiratory symptoms
7. Clean hands properly with soap and water or alcohol based-hand rub frequently
8. Avoid touching mouth, eyes and nose as much as possible.
9. Headsets given to passengers should be disinfected with 70% alcohol after use.
10. Tell all passengers to fill the Health Declaration form on board and make sure the passengers hand them over to the Airport Health Office/Immigration officers
11. Any crew member who develop respiratory symptoms within 14 days of travel after arriving in Sri Lanka, should promptly seek care at a government hospital and should disclose their travel history to the healthcare provider

Actions to be taken if there is a sick passenger on the flight

1. If possible, designate one crew member to interact with the sick passenger.
2. The crew member/s dealing with the sick passenger should wear the recommended Personnel Protective Equipment (surgical mask/N95 mask, coverall, goggle, gloves). Keep ten packs of recommended Personal Protective Equipment (surgical mask/N95 masks, coverall, goggle, gloves) on board.
3. Give a disposable surgical mask to the sick passenger (can be worn for 4 hours, but need to change more frequently if soaked). Face masks are not recommended for sick passengers complaining of nausea and vomiting as this could result in choking.

4. Separate the sick passenger from other travelers by 6 feet (two rows in front and rear) or move adjacent passengers without compromising flight safety or exposing additional passengers to the sick passenger.
5. If unable to separate the passengers from the sick passenger, give surgical masks to passengers seated on either side of the sick passenger.
6. Keep interactions with the sick passengers as brief as possible.
7. If possible, cover the seats of sick passenger/s with a polythene/mackintosh (in case if the passenger vomits, it is easier to dispose)
8. Keep an alcohol-based hand rub near the sick passenger/s and encourage them to use it after coughing and sneezing, after removing the mask etc.
9. Give tissues to be used adequately
10. Provide a disposable bag (polythene bag) to collect vomitus
11. Provide a yellow plastic bag/bio hazard bag for disposal of used tissues, air sickness bag(s), or other contaminated items used by sick passengers.
12. All bags containing any body fluid (such as diarrhoea, vomitus, respiratory secretions or blood) should be tightly closed as they are infectious. Keep them securely and separately in a closed container during a long flight.
13. Dispose the used masks/coveralls/gloves in to a closed bin for incineration
14. All yellow bags must be handed over to the designated officers for incineration after landing.
15. The pilot should inform the Medical Officer of Sri Lankan airlines and Medical Officer of Airport Health Office to get further guidance.
16. Report to the airport health office upon arrival in Sri Lanka

Targeted cleanup of the-flight carrying sick passenger/s after landing

1. Employees should wear PPE (fluid resistant gown, apron, heavy duty gloves, goggles, surgical mask) before cleaning or disinfecting any area.
2. For hard (nonporous) surfaces such as tray tables, TV monitors, seat arms, windows, and walls: clean the surfaces using tongs with 0.1% hypochlorite and finally wipe with normal water (if any visible contamination, clean with 1% hypochlorite. Metal surfaces can be corroded by hypochlorite. Hence, can be decontaminated with 70% alcohol).
3. Dispose the absorbent material in yellow bags.
4. Treat all body fluids (such as diarrhoea, vomitus, respiratory secretions or blood) as infectious material. These should be disinfected with 1% hypochlorite solution with adequate precautions.
5. For soft (porous) surfaces such as carpeted floor or seat cushions: remove as much of the contaminant as possible, cover the area with an absorbent substance, and contain the area as much as possible. Remove the absorbent substance and any remaining material, and then clean and disinfect the area with products approved by the company.

Guidance for cabin crew while in China

1. Travel as a group in private transport provided by the air carrier when traveling between the Airport and hotel
2. Minimize contact with ground personnel and time in public areas while moving between the aircraft and the private transport.
 - Do not use public transportation, including when traveling between the airport and hotel.
3. Minimize going out into the general population, and use social distancing (maintain a distance of approximately 6 feet, if possible) whenever out in public. Avoid crowds,

stores, sporting or mass entertainment events, and other situations likely to attract large numbers of people.

4. Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use a 70% alcohol based hand sanitizer.
5. Avoid touching mouth, eyes, and nose as much as possible
6. Self-monitor your health condition
 - Immediately report any fever, cough, runny nose or difficulty breathing to relevant authorities