

Dear Colleague,

We hope you are all safe and well in these challenging times. Here is some information you may find useful.

Lifting Suspensions

For clarification, MEs generally have delegation to cancel a suspension issued by them but not a suspension issued by another ME.

MEs generally do not have delegation to terminate a disqualification unless it is stipulated in a letter of disqualification that the disqualification will terminate once the ME is satisfied that recovery has occurred.

Prednisone

We have had inquires recently regarding a permissible dose of Prednisone. CAA accepts Prednisone up to 10 mg daily, provided absence of side effects, the condition is acceptable, stable and unlikely to flare up.

Caution must be exercised with Temporal Arteritis where an affected participant is tempted to reduce the medication faster than recommended with a flare up being possible or even likely. Stability over a period of time should be required.

General Directions - Examination Procedures & Timing of Examinations

Both GDs are currently under review. The Examination Procedures GD has been through the consultation process and is expected to be gazetted shortly. This GD will formalise the use of HbA1c and PREDICT for instance.

The Timing of Examinations GD will go out for consultation shortly. We welcome your suggestions.

CORE

In 2018 CAA introduced Tempo Box as a document sharing tool. Unfortunately, we discovered issues with this tool and CAA are now replacing Tempo Box with Core. We have been advised that Core is a more robust system and easier to use. Core still allows us to do the same thing as Tempo Box; securely share selected information with external people using their email address. We would like to trial CORE with a small group of Medical Examiners so please contact medmail@caa.govt.nz if you are interested.

ME Education

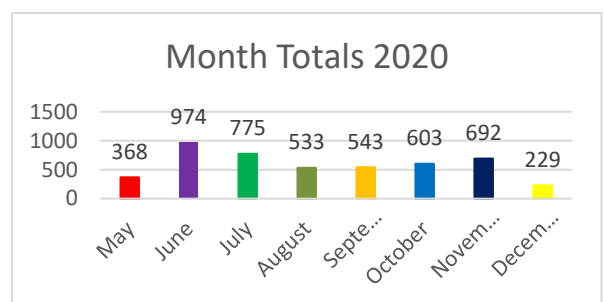
COVID-19 has really upset our plans to provide a face to face CME. We hope for a return to normality but are planning for the possibility of prolonged restricted face to face activities. We will organise 2 to 3 virtual education meetings (circa 1-1.5h duration), starting mid-February 2021. Our November 2020 plan had to be deferred a few months due to technical issues.

Sending AMC's to the Medical Unit

To prevent delays in the processing of AMC's, can you please state in the subject line of your email if there is an AMC included.

Medical Certificates

We are starting to see a gradual increase in medical certification. The graph below shows a reduction following the expiry of the Emergency Directive in June. November has seen the numbers increase again to pre-COVID numbers.



Rarotonga and Samoa pilots

Pilots in these regions were unable to attend a NZ ME. CAA assisted by designating Special MEs (SMEs) who could undertake the GME.

Pilots in Australia requiring a NZ medical certificate

With only one NZ ME in Sydney and cross borders restrictions, a number of pilots could not visit a NZCAA ME in Australia. Pilots could however attend a CASA DAME. CAA has issued a number of exemptions from the requirement to hold a NZ Class 1 certificate to pilots holding a current CASA medical certificate.

Medical Unit Christmas/New Year closure

CAA office will close on Thursday 24 December around midday and reopen on Tuesday 5 January 2021.

Medical Unit staff update

We would like to welcome Emily McIntyre & Kenzie McFadyen who joined the team in September and October. Emily is assisting with the AMC's and Kenzie is assisting with the overload.

We wish you and your family good health and good spirit over the holiday season.

Take care, stay well

With best regards from the Aviation Medicine Team