

CPAP Restrictions in Sydney

FCIF 21-0186 (Critical)

Issued: 03/16/21 1619

Source: Jelani Kelley

Suspense: 09/15/21

Approved: Matt Gandy

Australia's New South Wales (NSW) Health Department has made a change to their COVID-19 protocols which restricts the use of nebulizers, CPAP machines, and humidifiers in designated quarantine hotels based on concerns that these respiratory devices may increase the spread of COVID-19. We are continuing to seek additional information on this matter.

Those pilots who are medically required to use CPAP machines are impacted by the new rule. We are establishing a [Declaration/Opt-out form process](#) for those affected crewmembers to avoid SYD layovers. This may have an impact on some pilots during the March bid period. Bids for April should take into consideration this new Australian Government policy. The opt-out policy will apply to those pilots whose trips were awarded during the monthly bidding or secondary line processes. It does not apply to individuals who pick up SYD trips via bid line adjustments.

Specifically, pilots who, as reflected on their FAA Special Issuance Medical Certificate, have been diagnosed with a condition that would require them to travel with and use a CPAP device during a SYD layover should strongly consider opting out of the affected trip until this situation changes. To opt-out of a trip, please review the SYD section of the *Country Rules and CIQ Procedures* document in the COVID Tab and use the link to fill out the [Declaration/Opt-out form process](#) as early as possible, but not later than 48 hours prior to the start of your pairing.

Those opting out will be eligible for substitution IAW CBA Section 4.L. The form will require your certification that you are exercising your flight privileges under an FAA Special Issuance Medical Certificate that requires you to use a CPAP machine.

If you **intend to operate** a pairing with SYD layovers while in possession of a CPAP machine, you must utilize the [Declaration/Opt-out form process](#) to notify the NSW police of your intent to arrive with your device. Please submit this information as early as possible, but not later than 48 hours prior to the start of your pairing. The Duty Officer will be copied on this email for awareness should you encounter issues upon arrival. No additional notification to Flight Management will be made in this case.

If you have a CPAP device and do not opt-out, you can expect the following:

-Arriving Crew members who have a respiratory aid will be transferred to one of five hotels currently being leased by the Sydney Local Health District. These hotels, referred to as Special Health Accommodations, are staffed by nurses who will evaluate the pilot's need for the device.

-If the specialist determines that the person does not require their device, the crew member will be released to the quarantine hotel without the use of the respiratory aid.

-If the specialist determines that the person requires their device, they will be transferred to a ward at Royal Prince Albert Hospital and given appropriate care and observation for the duration of the layover.

For further information about this policy, please contact your Fleet Management team.

Continue

Email to Yourself

16-MAR-21 1659z