

Message from the Chief Medical Officer

Dear AME

As we approach the end of 2010, the process of transition from JAA to EASA is well and truly underway in the Medical Department. During the last couple of years we have been through a process of consultation and review of the EASA proposals for the requirements for medical certification. The latest milestone has been the publication of the EASA Opinion for a European Commission Regulation laying down Implementing Rules for the medical certification of pilots and medical fitness of cabin crew (Part Medical). You may find a copy of this at:

http://easa.europa.eu/agencymeasures/docs/opinions/2010/07/Draft%2 0Opinion%20Part-MED.pdf

There have been some significant changes following the last round of comments, particularly in relation to the LAPL and Cabin Crew. We will be digesting these over the next few weeks and aim to proceed with transition planning assuming that this document is likely to become a European Commission Regulation without significant change. During 2011 there will be briefings at the SAAME and AAME conferences and items in our newsletters and notifications to AMEs to bring you up to date on the transition process and the changes that will result.

Please remember that the Medical Department including the telephone and email links will be shut during the following times: Friday 24 December from 1200 until 0900 Tuesday 4th January 2011

Finally, all of us here at the CAA Medical Department would like to wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and prosperous, peaceful and healthy New Year.

Sally

Audit and Oversight

AME Annual Return

We will be making the AME Annual Return form for 2010 available from the first week of January. A notification will go out to all AMEs by e-mail reminding them about this and providing instructions for submission.

AME Seminars

These have now been completed following sessions at Gatwick, Perth, Bristol, Manchester, Birmingham and Newcastle. There was a fantastic attendance across all the venues and from the feedback you have submitted this format was well received. The Powerpoint slides from the presentations will be made available to all AMEs in the near future.

Minimum Number of Medicals

Some of you may have noticed that along with your reapproval letters you have received a covering letter about the number of medicals you undertake. There is currently a JAA requirement that AMEs complete at least 10 medicals per year. As EASA Part Medical stands at the moment this will also be a requirement for maintaining an AME certificate after April 2012.

Aeromedical Standards

Erratum

There was an error in the item on Hearing Limitations in the August 2010 Newsletter. The text should have read: "We have been gradually changing the limitations on certificates to SSLFHA, indicating that they need to submit the results of a functional hearing test on a 6 month or annual basis."

Our apologies for any confusion caused.

Pilots whose JAA state of licence issue is not the UK

One of our AMEs recently had a request from another Aviation Authority to reissue a medical



certificate with the full national licence number on it. Could we please ask you to include the full national licence number on any medical certificate you issue for a non-UK licence holder?

AME Online

We have been working towards facilitating all AMEs to use the AME Online system. It has been mandatory for several years now that new AMEs submit all medicals online. At present about 81% of AMEs use AME Online and as a result 97% of all medicals assessment reports are submitted electronically. We now wish to notify AMEs that from the date that the EASA medical requirements are applicable (8th April 2012) it will be a requirement that <u>ALL AMEs</u> submit their medicals online if they wish to maintain approval from the CAA.

Deactivated Safeword Tokens for AME Online

For security, and to ensure that the hard token remains activated, you must log onto the AME Online system at least once during each four-week period. You only need to login with your username, password and safeword token, click on the aeroplane icon and proceed until the Welcome page opens. If you do not access AME Online during this period, then the hard token is automatically deactivated and you will not be able to access the system.

Timely Entry of Medicals on AME Online/Submission of Medical Forms

We have previously commented on this in the Newsletter in October 2009 and in a notification to AMEs on 12th November 2010. Unfortunately we are still experiencing delays in submission of paperwork or completion online and this has been causing difficulties for pilots who have applications for licences rejected as the CAA has no record of valid certification.

Can we please remind you that for those not using the AME Online system paperwork should be submitted within 2 weeks of the examination date (or within 5 days if you have denied a medical certificate). For those using the online system, all medicals should be at least part loaded so that we can see that they have occurred if the applicant contacts us. If the medical was completed and a certificate issued this should be completed online at the time of the medical or at the latest within 14 days. An extra week is allowed if the medical is marked as 'awaiting results'. If no results are forthcoming within this time then the status should be changed to deferred.

This problem is causing the ASU a large amount of work and it is creating a large number of disgruntled applicants. From now on, when we become aware of delays in submission a standard letter will be sent to the AME involved reminding them of their requirements. If it continues to occur and we have not heard from the AME about any problems that they are experiencing then it is likely that action will be taken against their approval. To avoid this, please contact us within 14 days of the medical examination if you are experiencing any problems in loading the medical.

The on-line system was devised to enable you to access an individual's medical record and has built-in warnings if certain parameters are exceeded. This safety benefit is removed if your report is loaded after the certificate has been issued or the pilot has left your premises. Please endeavour to routinely load the information during the medical wherever possible.

Future IT Systems Questionnaire

Thank you very much to those AMEs who took the time to complete this questionnaire for us. We had a good response rate and the information you gave us was comprehensive and extremely useful for our planning so that we can provide a better system. As a result we hope to provide you with feedback early in the New Year on the responses.



<u>Web</u>

Since the last newsletter (August 2010) the following pages have been added/updated on our website:

In September a 15 point Oncology report guide was uploaded to the web:

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=4 9&pagetype=90&pageid=11679

Also in September the latest set of minutes from the 29th Civil Aviation Medicine Forum were uploaded to the web, under What's New at:

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=4 9&pagetype=90&pageid=7476

In November a link to the EASA home page, as well as one to the EASA Members page, were added to our list of links at:

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=4 9&pagetype=76

At the beginning of December item 0078: Transfer of medical records was added to the Notification Index:

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?categor yid=49&pagetype=90&pageid=7860

The Colour Vision page was updated and reinstated at:

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=4 9&pagetype=90&pageid=9984

Also, in December, the Admin Guidance document had a minor update to item 6 Fit/Temporarily Unfit procedures:

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=1 859&pagetype=90&pageid=4097

Three updated algorithms were also uploaded to the web:

Anthracycline treatment:

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=4

9&pagetype=90&pageid=1297

Guidance following Pacemaker implantation:

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?categor yid=49&pagetype=90&pageid=1228

Wolff-Parkinson White syndrome (preexcitation):

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?categoryid=4 9&pagetype=90&pageid=1107

Remember if you sign up for FSS feeds you can keep up-to-date with all the important changes to our site, by receiving this information as it is published.

Other

Scheme of Charges

The closing date for the consultation of the 2011/12 Scheme of Charges has passed. Generally, the Scheme prices are proposed to increase by 3% subject to a few additional structural changes. The charges for submitting medical records not using the online system will increase but the charges for using the online system will remain unchanged. To view the document please see the attached link.

http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=1350& pagetype=90&pageid=8114

AME Administration Support Officer

Jane Miller, who has been providing cover during Dawn's maternity leave, is moving to a permanent post within the CAA. We would like to thank her for the work she has done within the Medical Department and wish her all the best with her new post. Dawn is due to return in April and in the meantime please continue to use the same telephone number for AME Administration queries.

Finally

If there is anything that you would like to see featured in the newsletter then please let us know so that we can endeavour to include it in future issues.