



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS 100TH AIR REFUELING WING (USAFE)
ROYAL AIR FORCE MILDENHALL, ENGLAND**

19 July 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL RAF MILDENHALL AIRMEN

FROM: 100 ARW/CC

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Commander's Directives

Purpose: Provide up-to-date wing guidance related to our COVID-19 response in a way that is clear, concise, and readily accessible to all members of Team Mildenhall. **Changes are in red.**

Method: This memorandum supersedes all prior Crisis Action Team Directives (CAT Dir), which are hereby rescinded. The directives set forth below will remain in effect until superseded or rescinded and, unless specified, shall apply regardless of an individual's COVID vaccination status or recovery from COVID-19 infection. All personnel are required to follow UK guidance, unless the guidance stated below is more restrictive. COVID alert information and restrictions are available at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>, "What You Can and Cannot Do." For the purpose of this guidance, "fully vaccinated" is defined as 14 days since completion of a full series of any current US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-authorized COVID-19 vaccine. Uniformed members from the 352 SOW will adhere to guidance from their respective wing. Uniformed members from the 727 AMS, 488 IS, and 95 RS tenant units are encouraged to utilize this guidance in conjunction with their parent-command guidance.

Health Protection Condition. All Airmen are directed to observe HPCON BRAVO with additional CHARLIE measures.

DoD Stop Movement. The DoD is taking a conditions-based, phased approach to personnel movement. DoD service members and DoD civilian personnel, as well as dependents where travel is government-funded, will stop movement unless an exemption applies or an exception to policy (ETP) is granted by the 100 ARW/CC or first O-6 in traveler's chain of command. 352 SOW personnel will follow guidance linked below. Review the DoD Stop Movement gating criteria at: <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus/>. For PCS/TDY travel, see AFPC guidance at: https://mypers.af.mil/app/answers/detail/a_id/46605. For 352 SOW specific guidance, see 352 SOW COVID SharePoint at: <https://portal.usafe.af.mil/sites/352SOW/COVID19/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Travel/Leave/Liberty. The approval authority for travel outside the United Kingdom is the unit commander or equivalent.

From 19 July 2021, the host nation has implemented travel rules which eliminate quarantine requirements for vaccinated personnel upon arrival to England from amber list countries. This is only applicable to people that have been vaccinated via the United Kingdom NHS program AND have an NHS COVID vaccine passport, but we are actively working vaccine equivalency with the Host Nation. Recipients of a US vaccination program will continue to quarantine as directed by English law or by 100 ARW leadership and DoD guidelines. The current UK red, amber, and green lists may be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england>.

All travel will comply with requirements outlined in Attachment 3. Negative results for post-travel tests required by the UK will not shorten the quarantine requirement, unless communicated via an approved exemption on official travel by the 100 ARW/CC. Advise your chain of command and RAF Lakenheath Public Health of positive test results. Traveling personnel and their squadron commanders will use travel risk assessments at Attachments 1 and 2 prior to departing for travel **outside of England (including Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland)** for any reason and again upon return. Dependents and civilian personnel must accomplish this risk assessment prior to official travel; all individuals are highly encouraged to complete a risk assessment before any travel. Individuals must also confirm any entry requirements or restrictions in destination locations, to include those prescribed in DoD travel policies. If the destination country's status changes prior to departure, the travel must be re-evaluated with the squadron commander (or supervisor for civilian employees). Personnel completing quarantine prior to departure should travel

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in a manner that minimizes exposure in-transit (e.g. mil/contracted air). Passports & travel orders shall be carried by all personnel traveling outside the UK.

Individuals without symptoms may elect or be required by UK law to take Lateral Flow Device (LFD) COVID tests. Unit health monitors or unit deployment managers will coordinate with 100 LRS for ordering and delivery of LFD test kits for members utilizing an Essential Defense Activities exemption. The 48 MDG does not procure or administer LFD tests. If an LFD test indicates a positive result, isolate immediately and household members must quarantine IAW this document. Notify flight leadership and RAFL Public Health of this presumptive positive result within 1 hour as described in the *Reporting Requirements* section. Individuals must also report LFD test results and kit serial number within 24 hours to the UK via <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>. Unit commanders are accountable for LFD test administration, accountability, and reporting.

Positive LFD results must be confirmed via Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) via the UK at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. Notify flight leadership and RAFL Public Health of the PCR test result. If the PCR test result is negative discontinue isolation and household members/close contacts without COVID symptoms can discontinue quarantine. If the PCR test is positive, isolation and quarantine continue as described in this document. Notify flight leadership and RAFL Public Health of either PCR test result.

Restriction of Movement (ROM) Quarantine and isolation are valid military orders; military members who are directed to quarantine or isolate by their unit commander or the 48 MDG may be subject to administrative or disciplinary action for violations. Civilian employees, contractors, and dependents who do not receive medical care on-base will also follow guidance provided by the National Health Service.

- **QUARANTINE** means you may be at risk for developing COVID-19 infection due to travel or close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 positive individual. Balancing US and host nation guidance, as well as mission and mental health concerns, 48 FW policy is detailed in Attachment 3 and as follows:
 - Quarantine due to close contact: 10 days from last exposure to COVID positive individual, with no option to curtail quarantine through testing.
 - Quarantine due to travel: See Attachment 3.
 - Travel Testing:
 - For official travel, to include dependents on PCS orders, commanders may direct “Command-directed, medically-executed” testing after 5 full days from arrival in England.
 - Upon receipt of a negative test result, the commander may allow early discontinuation of quarantine, **in accordance with DoD directives**, no earlier than completion of the 7th full day after arrival. Commanders or designees will schedule this testing via a Sharepoint site.
 - If testing demand exceeds capacity the 48 MDG will suspend quarantine curtailment through testing. Normal time from test sample to result is 24-36 hours.
 - For non-official travel, individuals may obtain a test via an authorized private provider and discontinue quarantine on the same time schedule. Testing costs for non-official travel are currently non-reimbursable. A list of providers is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/list-of-private-providers-of-coronavirus-testing/list-of-private-providers-of-coronavirus-testing>.

Fully vaccinated individuals arriving from Amber List countries may release from travel quarantine after the 5th full day in England after a negative test result IAW the UK test to release scheme:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-test-to-release-for-international-travel>

- Quarantine Guidance
 - STAY AT HOME. Do not leave your home or private yard during your quarantine period except for medical requirements. Non-quarantined household members may leave home.
 - Take your temperature twice per day.
 - If you develop COVID-19 symptoms, contact the MDG appointment line at DSN 226-8010 (01638 52 8010) or the Emergency Room after hours/weekends/holidays via DSN 226-4226 (01638 52 4226). Symptoms include fever, chills, body aches, headache, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty

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breathing, and/or loss of smell or taste. More info is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>.

- Unit Support during Quarantine: Sponsoring units are required to provide support to their quarantined members who do not have local family support. Support shall include, but not be limited to, prepared food, groceries, personal care products, and laundry services.
- Travel quarantine exceptions: Individuals who are in quarantine due to travel and residing in the dorms, base lodging, or base housing are authorized to exercise outside for a maximum of one hour per day. During your time outside, do not leave the base, enter any buildings, attend gatherings or events, or come within 6 feet of any person. You may shop at the RAFL Commissary during advertised quarantine hours (Tuesdays and Thursdays from 0730-0845).
 - If residing in base lodging, personnel must wait until the hallway is clear of people before leaving their room, wear a face covering, and limit touching surfaces.
 - These exemptions do not apply to individuals who are in quarantine off-base.
- **ISOLATION** means you have tested positive or have symptoms consistent with COVID-19 infection and are awaiting results of a COVID-19 test.
 - STAY AT HOME until you are released by a medical provider with a negative test result. If you test positive, STAY AT HOME until you meet all of the following criteria:
 - No fever for at least 24 hours (without use of fever reducing medication)
 - Other symptoms have improved
 - At least 10 days have passed since your symptoms started. If you never had symptoms, isolate until at least 10 days from the date of your positive test. If symptoms do not improve during the isolation period, contact your medical provider for further evaluation.
 - All household members will quarantine for 10 days, starting at the end of the isolation period or last contact with the COVID positive individual.
 - Stay in a private room with a private bathroom where available and avoid contact with anyone else in the household.
 - If you live in a dorm room or lodging, DO NOT LEAVE THE ROOM.
 - If you have symptoms and are awaiting results of a COVID-19 test, all members of your household must quarantine until you have been released by the 48 MDG.
 - Unit Support during Isolation: Sponsoring units are required to provide support to their isolated members who do not have local family support. Support shall include, but not be limited to, prepared food, groceries, personal care products, and laundry services.

Masks and Social Distancing. *Face masks are not a substitute for social distancing. Although the Host Nation will be relaxing requirements dramatically in terms of mask requirements, the DoD also has rules on masks, which drives the following guidance.*

Individuals who are fully vaccinated on RAF Mildenhall are not mandated to wear face coverings except when on public transportation, in base lodging reception, entering healthcare facilities and in patient care areas, waiting areas and hallways.

Individuals who are not fully vaccinated on RAF Mildenhall will wear face masks continuously and maintain six feet of physical distancing. Exceptions to this requirement are listed below.

- In your home,
- In a private office with a closed door,
- When outdoors and proper physical distancing can be maintained,
- When actively participating in physical fitness activities either indoors or outdoors and either proper physical distancing is maintained or additional measures are implemented to mitigate the threat of transmission,
- When necessary to reasonably accommodate a religious belief,
- When an individual is alone in a vehicle or sharing the vehicle only with members of their household,
- When use substantively interferes with the proper wear and use of personal protective equipment necessary for the accomplishment of one's military duties,
- When personnel are in primary aircrew positions during critical phases of flight or emergencies; or

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- when using flight crew oxygen equipment,
- For brief periods of time when eating and drinking while maintaining 6 feet distance,
- When clear or unrestricted visualization of verbal communication are essential to safe and effective operations, or
- When mask is required to be lowered briefly for identification or security purposes.

Masks must fit snugly around the nose and chin with no large gaps around the sides of the face and may be non-medical disposable masks or made with breathable or tightly woven fabric. Novelty or non-protective masks, and masks with face ventilation valves are not authorized. For Military Health System beneficiaries, if you feel that you have a condition that prevents you from complying with mask wear requirements, contact your primary care provider via the appointment line. Cases will be reviewed by your healthcare provider and the MDG Chief of Medical Staff. If you are unable to wear or cannot tolerate a mask due to such a condition, consider adaptations and alternatives, such as a face shield. Case-by-case exemption authority is delegated to installation commanders.

While off-base, follow **local government and business requirements** unless conducting official business and this directive is more restrictive.

Reporting Requirements. All personnel who test positive for COVID-19 at an off-base facility/at home or are notified by host nation authorities that they are a close contact must report this to their unit leadership and RAFL Public Health technician on-call via the Command Post within **1 hour**. Personnel are responsible for reporting positive test results from their dependents to facilitate close contact tracing. GCCs/UCCs shall report the quarantine, isolation, or ROM status of unit personnel to include Command Sponsored dependents to inform the daily SITREP. This update will be emailed to the 100 ARW Command Post at 100ARW.CPY3@us.af.mil NLT 0900L each duty day.

Telework. Telework and split/staggered shift scheduling are available to Commanders and supervisors where there is minimal or no loss of productivity, and where mission and/or customer services are not adversely impacted when measured against a pre-COVID baseline.

Key Resources. For current DoD, UK, and CDC guidance, visit:

- DoD guidance. <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/Spotlight/Coronavirus/>
- General UK guidance. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-list-of-guidance>
- Red, amber and green list rules for entering England: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/red-amber-and-green-list-rules-for-entering-england>
- Foreign Clearance Guide: <https://www.fcg.pentagon.mil/fcg.cfm>
- UK Foreign Travel Advice: <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>
- UK Test to Release Scheme (applies to fully vaccinated): <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-test-to-release-for-international-travel>

Keep up the fight. The best defense against COVID-19 is following medical guidance and executing good hygiene and social distancing. Continue to be vigilant in handwashing and the use of hand sanitizer, covering your coughs/sneezes, staying home when you are sick, staying away from others who are sick, routinely cleaning all frequently touched surfaces, etc. If you develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19, contact the 48 MDG Appointment Line at DSN 226-8010 (01638 52 8010) or the Emergency Room after hours/weekends/holidays via DSN 226-4226 (01638 52 4226).

End State: The 100 ARW will continue to provide a ready force and strategic forward base, while ensuring the safety of our Airmen, their families, and the local community. Every scenario cannot be envisioned. Commanders are therefore empowered to make well-reasoned decisions or implement mission specific additional requirements to meet the intent of this memorandum. Please direct questions to the 100 ARW Front Office at DSN 314-238-0100 during normal duty hours or the 100 ARW Command Post after hours at DSN 314-238-0100 or email at 100arw.cce@us.af.mil.

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GENE A. JACOBUS, Colonel, USAF
Commander

3 Attachments:

- 1) Pre-Travel Risk Assessment Tool (CAO 19 Jul 2021)
- 2) Return-Travel Risk Assessment Tool (CAO 19 Jul 2021)
- 3) Travel Requirement Table