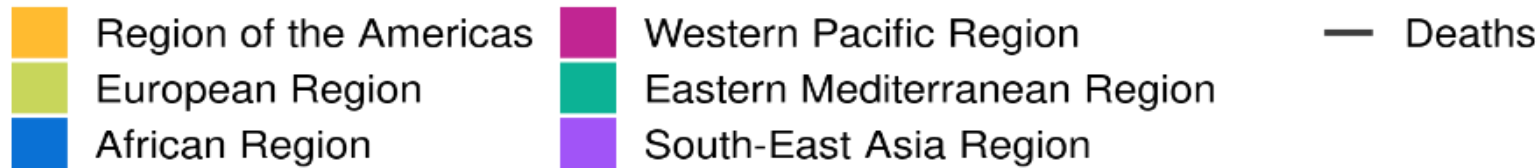
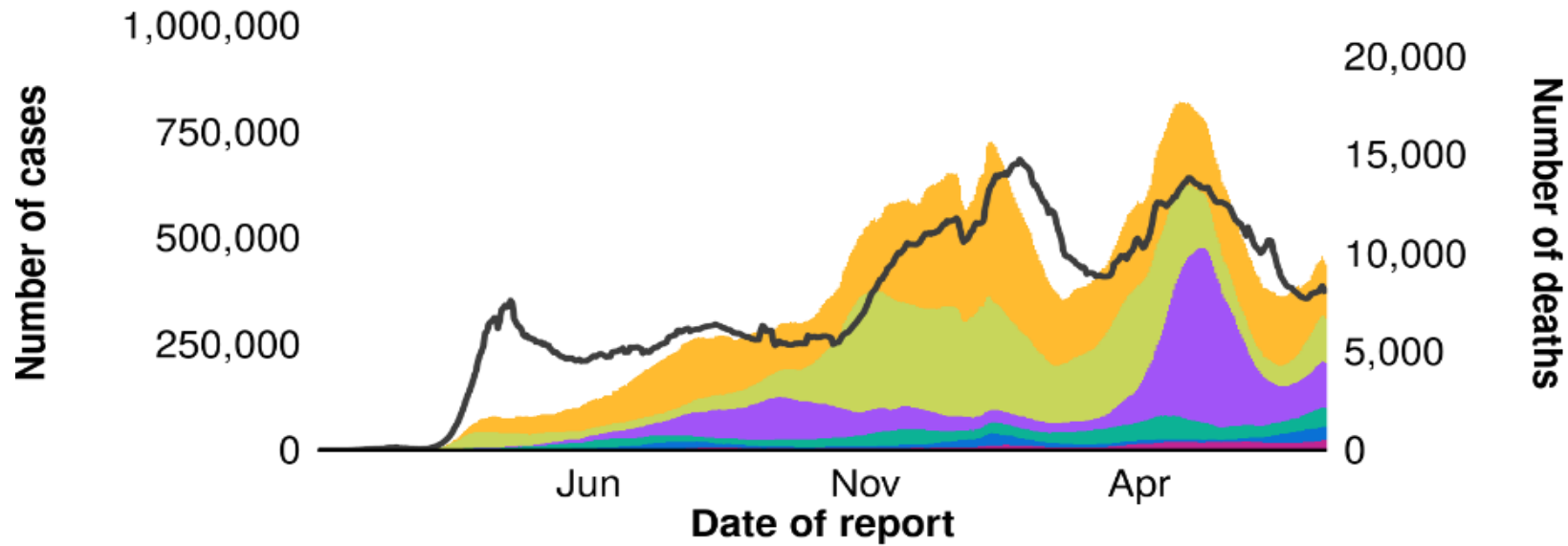


Update from the World Health Organization in relation to international Travel 20 July 2021

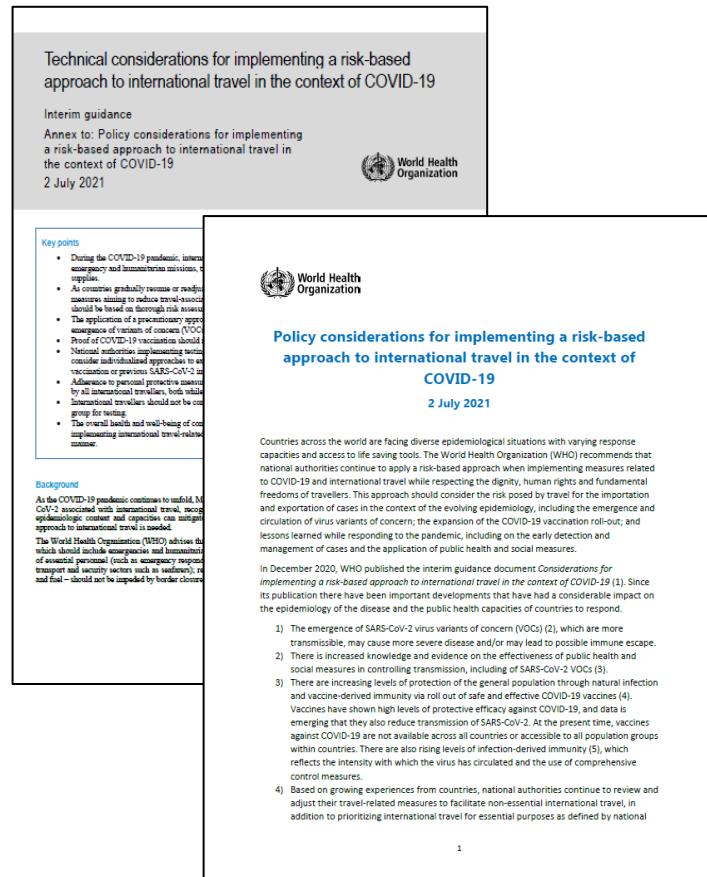
Dr Nedret Emiroglu
Director, Country Readiness Strengthening department
WHO health Emergency program



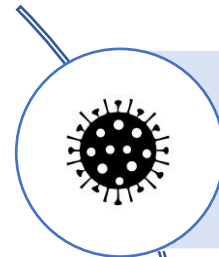
data smoothed with 7-day moving average

WHO Coronavirus
(COVID-19) Dashboard

Policy brief and updated technical guidance – international travel in the context of COVID-19



What is new?



Guidance on **how to consider variants of the SARS-CoV-2 virus in the risk assessment**



Considerations to **exempt from testing and/or quarantine requirements to travellers with vaccine-induced or natural immunity**



Updated body of evidence on effectiveness and impact of risk mitigation measures

Policy brief and updated technical guidance – key messages (1)

- A **risk-based approach to international travel** should continue to be applied, taking into account risk of importation/exportation in the context of the evolving epidemiology; increase of vaccine-induced and natural immunity; lessons learnt on the use of PHSMs, IPC, early detection and management of cases.
- **International travellers are not COVID-19 cases or contacts by default** and should not be a priority group for SARS-CoV-2 testing, particularly in resource-limited contexts.
- At all times, the use of risk mitigation measures should be **risk-based** and **regularly reviewed** to ensure they are **proportionate** and **lifted when no longer necessary**.
- **Travel for essential purposes should continue to be prioritized.**
- The **dignity, human rights** and **fundamental freedoms** of travellers should be respected as per the provisions in the IHR (2005).

Policy brief and updated technical guidance – key messages (2)

- **Proof of COVID-19 vaccination should not be required as a condition** for entry or exit.
- **Exemptions to testing and/or quarantine requirements** may be provided to travellers who:
 - a. were **fully vaccinated**, at least 2 weeks prior to travelling, with COVID-19 vaccines that are WHO EUL-listed or approved by a stringent regulatory authority;
 - a. had **previous SARS-CoV-2 infection** confirmed by rRT-PCR within 6 months prior to travelling and are no longer infectious.
- **Alternatives should be offered** for travellers who are unvaccinated or do not have proof of previous infection.
- All travellers should continue **adhering to personal protective measures and PHSMs** throughout the travel journey.

8^h IHR Emergency Committee COVID-19 (14 Jul 2021)

recommendations for international travel and its implementation

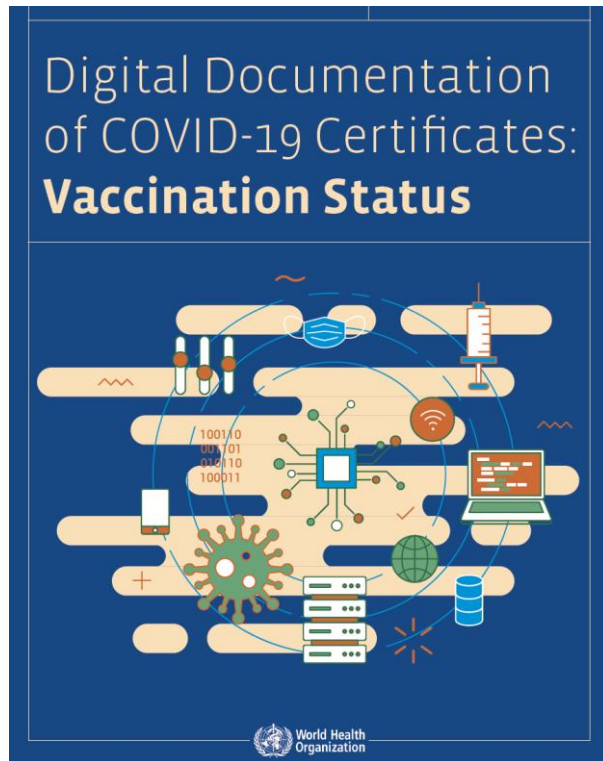
To State Parties

Continue a risk-based approach to facilitate international travel and share information with WHO on use of travel measures and their public health rationale. In accordance with the IHR, measures (e.g. masking, testing, isolation/quarantine, and vaccination) should be based on risk assessments, consider local circumstances, and avoid placing the financial burden on international travellers in accordance with Article 40 of the IHR. [Link to WHO guidance.](#)

Do NOT require proof of vaccination against COVID-19 for international travel as the only pathway or condition permitting international travel, given limited global access and inequitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Link to [WHO interim position paper](#). State Parties should consider a risk-based approach to the facilitation of international travel by lifting measures, such as testing and/or quarantine requirements, when appropriate, in accordance with the WHO guidance. [Link to WHO guidance.](#)

Recognize all COVID-19 vaccines that have received [WHO Emergency Use Listing](#) in the context of international travel. In addition, States Parties are encouraged to include information on COVID-19 status, in accordance with [WHO guidance](#), within the WHO booklet containing the International Certificate of Vaccination and Prophylaxis; and to use the digitized version when available.

Three guidance documents on how to digitally document COVID-19 related certificates



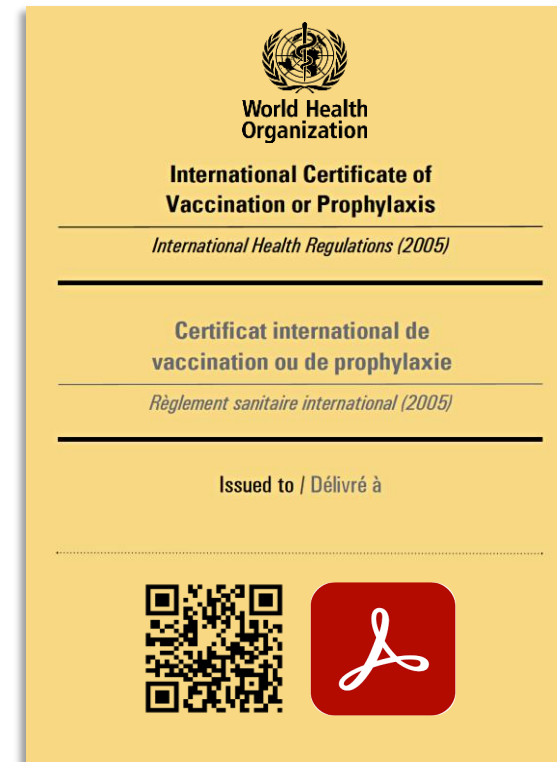
Being published...

SARS-CoV-2 Test Results

History of SARS-CoV-2 Infection

In progress

Digitalization of International Certificate of Vaccination and Prophylaxis



In progress