



Update ME

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A brief update from the
Civil Aviation Authority
Central Medical Unit

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Implementing the new Part 67

This issue of the Update ME newsletter is devoted to the implementation of the new Civil Aviation Rule Part 67: Medical Standards and Certification.

Background

On 1 April 2002 the amended Civil Aviation Act (the Act) came into force, bringing significant changes to our medical certification system.

As a result a new Civil Aviation Rule Part 67 (Part 67) had to be developed together with a number of General Directions (GDs). The new Part 67 has now been signed by the Minister.

New Part 67 comes into force on 1 May 2006

Because the structure of the new Part 67 is slightly different, a lot of detail which was formerly in the Rule is now part of the GDs. It is therefore important to use both Part 67 and the GDs together.

Three new GDs come into force on 1 May 2006

What follows is a guide map of the changed processes. Naturally, this is only a summary, and at each stage we will point to the appropriate rule or GD so you can get a more complete understanding. CAA Medical Officers are available on the telephone to answer any enquiry that you may have. It is always simpler and safer to do things right first time!

CAR Rule Part 67

The new Part 67 brings a number of changes that you need to be aware of immediately. The most important ones relate to the:

Duration of medical certificates

The duration for Class 1 certificate has been extended to a maximum of one year for pilots over age 40, *who are not engaged in single pilot operations that are air operations carrying passengers*. For example, flight instruction and agricultural work are not defined as air operations carrying passengers. Class 1 certificates for pilots over age 40 can now be issued with two expiry dates pertaining to the different types of operations. Refer rule 67.61(e).

Class 2 and Class 3 certificates have a longer

validity for certain age brackets. Refer rule 67.61(a).

In addition there is now provision for a new medical certificate to end on the same expiry date that would have applied if the certificate was issued on the expiry date of the existing certificate. This will reinstitute a buffer period between the expiry of an old medical certificate and the issue of a new certificate. This is only possible if the issue takes place within 30 days of the existing medical certificate expiry date (but not any extension expiry date). Refer rules 67.61(c) & (d)

Please take the time to read subpart B of Part 67. See also the summary of the rules on the power point presentation on our website → medical → aviation medicine → current medical issues.

Format of medical certificates

With the changes mentioned earlier, some reformatting of the Medical Certificate itself has been necessary. A template is available on request.

If you are using third-party software for your medical certification, we have been advised that an update is under development and invite you to liaise directly with the software developer.

Medical standards

These do not change fundamentally, however the format of the medical standards has changed and they will need to be applied with reference to the GDs. When considering if someone can be issued a certificate under section 27B(1) of the Act, it is important to first read the rules and then the relevant GD, if any, prior to making a decision. Refer rule 67.3(a).

Please take the time to read subparts A and C of Part 67. See also the summary of the rules on the power point presentation on the CAA website.

Transitional arrangements

These specify that an application received by the Director (or delegate) **prior** to 1 May 2006 must be assessed under the previous Rules Part 67. Refer rule 67.351(e).

Please take the time to read subpart H of Part 67.

General Directions

GDs are tertiary legislation. Three GDs will come into force on 1 May 2006. These three GDs are titled *Timing of Routine Examinations*, *Examination Procedures*, and *Impaired Hearing and Hearing Aids*.

Timing of Routine Examinations

This GD details what examination should be done and when. One major change in the way these are presented is that the GD refers to the age at which investigations need to be done rather than “every so many years”. This information is presented as a table for easy reference.

Worked examples, showing how to use this GD, are provided in the Medical Manual.

Examinations Procedures

This GD is written as a user’s manual about procedures regarding specific examinations. Details of how to conduct and interpret the examination, in what manner to report it, how long it is valid, etc, are all spelt out for the routine examinations, and for some examinations related to hearing.

As more *clinical* GDs are produced, the *Examination Procedures* GD will have more and more examinations added to it.

Impaired Hearing and Hearing Aids

This *GD* relates to the consideration of applicants with impaired hearing.

Please take the time to read these three GDs.

Medical Examiners:

The new Part 67 refers extensively to Medical Examiners.

There is a requirement for an exposition (a document detailing how you run your ME work). To complete this, you have until 1 November 2006, or until you have to reapply: whichever comes first.

The CMU is trying to minimize the impact of the new Part 67 for Medical Examiners by providing an online facility. In particular your exposition can be filled-in and stored on line. We will be sending you further guidance on how to access and use this facility.

Medical Manual

With the new Part 67 and the implementation of GDs, come new processes. CAA has drafted a new administrative part for the Medical Manual. This is being sent, as a draft, to all MEs for consideration and comment. The Medical Manual will also be available on the CAA website. MEs will be notified of any updates of the Medical Manual by e-mail. In such cases please ensure that any hard-copy you hold is the latest version.

The administrative part of the Medical Manual has been designed to explain all the processes involved during the certification. Examples are given together with key points.

Please contact CMU if you find anything unclear as we much prefer to answer an extra telephone call than to have to contact you later to ask for problem rectification. Suggestions for improvement of this material are welcome.

Please take the time to read the Part 2 of the Medical Manual, titled *The Medical certification System*.

Forms:

Minor consequential changes to the application, examination report, and assessment report forms have been introduced.

The GDs include a requirement to report on cardiovascular risk for applicants. To facilitate this, changes have been made to the medical examination report form (CAA form 24067-002).

The new forms are to be used from 1 May 2006.

Please ensure that any previously photocopied forms are destroyed and replaced with the new versions of the forms

Conclusion

The new Part 67, effective 1 May 2006, and the introduction of the GDs bring some important changes for Medical Examiners.

We invite you to familiarize yourself with the enclosed documentation. Do not hesitate to contact CMU by phone or e-mail if you have any queries.

We thank you for your support in making the change run smoothly.

CAA Medical Help

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