



Elin Jones, MS
Llywydd
Senedd Cymru
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1SN

19 November 2021

Dear Elin,

The Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel and Restrictions) (Wales) (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations 2021

In accordance with section 11A(4) of the Statutory Instruments Act 1946 I am notifying you that this Statutory Instrument will come into force at 04:00 on 22 November, less than 21 days after it has been laid. A copy of the instrument and the Explanatory Memorandum that accompanies it are attached for your information.

This statutory instrument amends the Health Protection (Coronavirus, International Travel) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (“the International Travel Regulations”) and the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (No. 5) (Wales) Regulations 2020 (“the Restrictions Regulations”).

These Regulations amend the International Travel Regulations by making the following changes:

- Extend the recognition of certain vaccine certificates issued by additional European countries and territories, for the purposes of pre-departure testing and vaccine travel exemptions;
- Extend the recognition of vaccinations to further countries and territories
Belarus, Bolivia, The Dominican Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ecuador, Laos, Libya, Malawi, Mozambique, Samoa, Senegal, Vanuatu, Zambia and Zimbabwe;
- Broaden the definition of “authorised vaccine” by removing the requirement that it is to be administered in a relevant country and through recognising certain WHO recognised vaccines;

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

- Remove the residency requirements for travellers vaccinated in the United States of America, participants in clinical trials, and travellers under 18;
- Exempt all under 18s from the requirement to isolate;
- Introduce further means of proof of vaccination, including approved third countries and territories certificates and certain US State vaccination certificates;
- Make further technical amendments including around vaccinations as part of the UK vaccine roll-out overseas;
- Exempt the following persons from the requirement to provide passenger information when they have travelled to Wales in the course of their work (whether or not they have travelled in a passenger carrying conveyance): road haulage workers; road passenger transport workers; masters and seamen; pilots involved in merchant shipping; inspectors and surveyors of ships; and crew on aircraft;
- Remove the isolation requirement for non-UK resident hauliers when they are not at work;
- Remove the requirement for certain diplomats to receive written authorisation from the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office ahead of reliance on isolation exemption provisions. Regulation 9 is also amended so as to align isolation exemptions for road haulage workers regardless of residency status;
- Make further technical and consequential amendments in light of the above amendments.

These Regulations also amend the Restrictions Regulations, further extending the list of countries and territories, so that evidence of vaccination in those countries with vaccines authorised in the United Kingdom is also acceptable for the purposes of what is commonly known as the COVID-pass. The amendment is required to maintain consistency with the vaccine recognition amendments to the International Travel Regulations.

Not adhering to the 21 day convention allows these Regulations to come into force at the earliest opportunity and continue the four nation approach to international travel; in view of the changing evidence on risk in relation to this disease this is considered necessary and justifiable in this case.

I am copying this letter to the Minister for Rural Affairs and North Wales, and Trefnydd, Huw Irranca-Davies, MS, Chair of the Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee, Siwan Davies, Director of Senedd Business, Sian Wilkins, Head of Chamber and Committee Services and Julian Luke, Head of Policy and Legislation Committee Service.

Yours sincerely,



Eluned Morgan AS/MS

Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services