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Údarás Eitlíochta na Éireann Foirgneamh na hAmanna 11–12 Sráid D'Olier Baile Átha Cliath 2, Éire Rannán na Rialachán Sábháilteachta No. PLAM.033 Revision 0 Area MED Date 18/08/2021



Introduction of European Aviation Medical Repository (EAMR)

References

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/27

Introduction

The European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) launched the European Aero-Medical Repository (EAMR), adding an additional tool to enhance flight safety by allowing traceability of commercial pilots' medical certificates. The repository is intended to help aero-medical examiners (AMEs) to fulfil their obligations and provides support to the National authorities with their oversight and administrative work in the field of aviation medicine for commercial aviation.

Following the Germanwings accident both the Germanwings Task Force led by EASA and the French Bureau d'Enquêtes et d'analyses pour la sécurité de l'Aviation civile (BEA) recommended to find a balance between medical confidentiality and public safety and to create a European aeromedical data repository to facilitate the sharing of aeromedical information and tackle the issue of pilot non-declaration.

The EAMR enables aero-medical examiners (AMEs), aero-medical centres (AeMCs) and medical assessors (MAs) of EASA Member States' National Competent Authorities (NCAs) to exchange information regarding the medical certification of commercial pilots.

AMEs, AeMCs and the MAs of the NCAs can access information on commercial pilots' medical certificates and any historical changes to the status of these medical certificates, as well as a minimal set of data to allow positive identification of the applicant, while respecting patient confidentiality and ensuring protection of personal data. In accordance with ARA.MED.160 Exchange of information on medical certificates through a central repository, the NCAs, AMEs and AeMCs shall use the EAMR to exchange medical certificate information.

Although the EAMR portal was technically ready to go live in early 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic not all EU Member States were able to complete the training, as many of the medical assessors and AMEs were involved, as medical doctors, in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The use of the EAMR requires training of the AMEs and AeMCs and a gradual implementation is considered with an envisaged mandatory use of the EAMR by all EASA Member States by October 1, 2021.

More information on the EAMR and access to the training material is available on <u>EASA's</u> website.

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EAMR - Overview

The development of the EAMR was recommended by the Germanwings taskforce as an additional mitigation measure that would ensure the traceability of decrease of medical fitness and mitigate the risk of non-declaration.

The legal framework was put in place in 2019 by means of the Annex II to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/27 of 19 December 2018 amending Regulation (EU) No 1178/2011 laying down technical requirements and administrative procedures related to civil aviation aircrew pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2018/1139 of the European Parliament and of the Council and the corresponding EASA ED Decision 2019/002/R enabling EASA to develop the EAMR and provide it to the Member States for use.

The system allows the AMEs/AeMCs and the medical assessors of the National Competent Authorities(NCA) to access the information on medical certificate and any historical changes to the status of these medical certificates, as well as a minimal set of data to allow positive identification of the applicant.

Many of the Member States have a national medical certification software allowing them to exchange information at national level and to issue the medical certificate in accordance with the established format.

EAMR does not include any medical data and cannot be used to for the purpose of exchanging medical information or issuing a medical certificate. The EAMR allows international exchange of information regarding the licensing authority of the applicant and the content of the medical certificate as well as tracing the historical changes in the status of the medical certificate. This was identified as an additional tool to enhance the flight safety by allowing traceability of the medical certificates as well as better oversight of the AMEs and the fulfilment of their obligations when examining foreign applicants, as well as to provide support to the NCA in their oversight and administrative work in the field of aviation medicine for commercial aviation.

The EAMR uses two platforms allowing NCA staff, AMEs/AeMCs and applicants to log in subject to their access rights. One platform, called CRM, is dedicated to the NCA staff allowing more administrative functionalities mirroring processes regarding the management of applicants and of the medical certificates, while the other one, namely the web-based Portal, allows access for the AMEs/AeMCs and applicants.

Applicability and Conditions

The access to both EAMR platforms is based on individual username and password. The access of the users to data is allowed on a need-to-know basis in accordance with the tasks required by the Aircrew regulation and in line with the data protection requirements. Consequently, the NCA staff will only be able to access the AME/AeMCs and applicants under their oversight. AMEs and AeMCs will be able to search for applicants only by using

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criteria which will positively identify only one applicant and they are not allowed to see lists of applicants. Consequently, AME and AeMCs will be able to access any applicant which gives them the EAMR unique ID or the means of identification details and with these their consent to access their file. Nevertheless, if an applicant is already in the system and there is an attempt to create the same applicant again the system will trigger a potential duplicate notification which requires management by the applicable NCA.

Applicants have read-only access right to their data to ensure the correctness of their data in the system. In case errors are being identified, the applicants should contact their licensing authority to ensure any errors are corrected.

The accounts for the NCA staff have been set-up by EASA and the external provider of the tool, while accounts for the AMEs/AeMCs and for the applicants are being set-up by the NCAs. In this regard AMEs/AeMCs and applicants will receive and email notification that their account has been created and they are invited to follow the link to the EAMR portal to complete their registration.

Implementation timeline - October 1, 2021

Although the EAMR portal was technically ready to go live early in 2020, due to COVID-19 pandemic not all Member States were able to participate to the training. Additionally, many of the medical assessors and AMEs were involved, as medical doctors, in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. Consequently, the EAMR finally went live in June 2021. In accordance with ARA.MED.160 Exchange of information on medical certificates through a central repository, the NCAs, AMEs and AeMCs shall use the EAMR to exchange medical certificate information. As the use of the EAMR requires training of the AMEs and AeMCs, EASA agreed with the Member States to have a gradual implementation that would allow training aiming for the tool to be used by the AMEs and AeMCs as soon as they are properly trained. The envisaged mandatory use of the EAMR by all EASA Member States is targeted for October 1, 2021.