



Update ME

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A brief update from the
Civil Aviation Authority
Central Medical Unit

14 September 2007

Welcome to another issue of our *Update ME* newsletter.

Reminder: Certificate copies

The Director has a statutory obligation to maintain a register of all medical certificates. The New Zealand civil aviation regulatory system is based on the decentralised issue of medical certificates, so it becomes critically important that copies of all certificates (and suspensions etc) issued are promptly forwarded to the Director so that the register can be kept up to date.

Many MEs forward a photocopy of the actual certificate that has been issued. This is ideal because it represents the actual certificate ... hand written amendments and all. The CAA has, however, also accepted signed-and-stamped non-photocopy facsimiles of the certificate that was issued. It is important, when utilising this alternative option, to ensure that you have signed and stamped the facsimile printout ... indicating that it is a valid copy of the certificate that you actually issued.

A photocopy of the actual certificate is ideal but a signed-stamped facsimile is an acceptable alternative.

Interpretation: Single-pilot air operations carrying passengers - Rule 67.61(a)(1)(i)

Civil Aviation Rule 67.61(a)(1)(i) allows for the issue of a class 1 medical certificate for a period of up to "6 months, if the applicant is 40 years of age or more on the date that the medical certificate is issued and is engaged in a single-crew air transport operation carrying passengers".

On occasion the interpretation of "single-crew air transport operation carrying passengers" has presented difficulties for some pilots. Although it is not an ME's responsibility to interpret this phrase for others the CAA has prepared an information

document on this topic. The document has not yet been promulgated in its final form but pre-publication copies of the information can be obtained by contacting the CMU.

Reminder: Rule 67.61c & thirty days

Civil Aviation Rule 67.61(c) makes provision, in special circumstances, for the issue of a medical certificate that is slightly longer than the maximum period specified in rule 67.61(a).

The special situation is that the medical certificate that is being replaced: 1. Has not yet expired; and 2. Would not normally expire more than 30 days in the future. These limitations are important; some MEs have issued invalid medical certificates when they've failed to appreciate this aspect of rule 67.61(c).

A corollary to this is that rule 67.61(c) can only be applied to the certificate that is expiring within 30 days. If a class 1 medical certificate expires in 24 days while the class 2 certificate expires in 1 year and 24 days then the provisions of rule 67.61(c) can only be applied to the class 1 medical certificate.

If you're having any difficulty with, or are just uncertain about, the application of this rule (or any rule for that matter) please do not hesitate in calling or emailing us for conformation / clarification.

New Staff at CMU

We have recently two new staff start with the CAA Central Medical Unit. Mary Huffadine and Andrea Keenan are both working as advisers in our *General Administration* section, and their responsibilities include staffing the helpdesk telephones ... so you'll probably be talking with them soon. Welcome Mary and Andrea.

We are here to help!

If you have any problems, questions, or queries, please contact our help-desk (details below)

CAA Medical Help

Tel: +64-4-560 9466 Fax: +64-4-560 9470
Email: med@caa.govt.nz web site: www.caa.govt.nz