

COVID-19 Operational Considerations



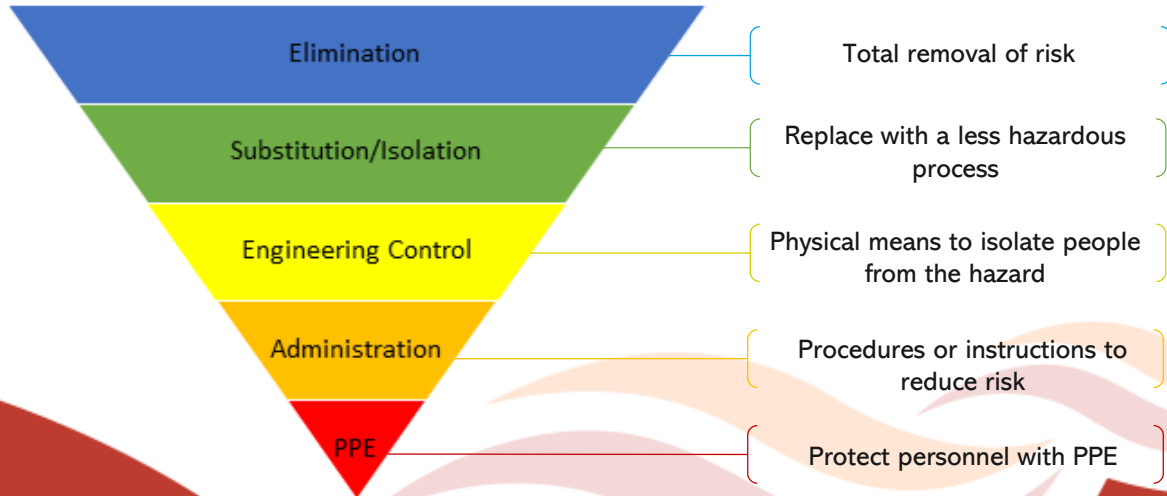
A summary for responders of COVID-19 operational considerations
applicable to aerial surveillance operations

COVID-19 Operational Considerations



Hierarchy of Controls

- This guide assumes that a systematic approach to developing a response strategy has been followed, which combines a spill impact mitigation assessment and considerations for minimising the risk to responders and communities posed by COVID-19 – and that aerial surveillance has been identified as an appropriate response technique.
- A hierarchy of controls is used to manage risk related to COVID-19 during aerial surveillance operations.



COVID-19 Operational Considerations



Aerial Surveillance

Substitution

- In order to minimise the number of personnel involved in aerial surveillance operations consider alternative means that can provide appropriate data in an acceptable timeframe. It may be possible to reduce the total number of aerial surveillance flights for specific missions if we incorporate the following options:
 - Spill Identification: Engagement with MDA or mobilising party's preferred supplier to provide satellite imagery.
 - Spill Verification/Monitoring: Deployment of UAV or remotely captured images.
- In order to minimise the number of people involved in aerial surveillance operations from a closely confined aircraft, consider the feasibility of:
 - Training aircrew to conduct the aerial surveillance operations without the presence of response personnel, or other external stakeholders.
 - Providing remote support and advice on spill identification/quantification through analysis of photographs and videography gathered during the surveillance operations.
 - Consider aircraft options that allow for social distancing onboard.
 - Where possible, only allow essential personnel on the aircraft during observation flights.
- Use of digital/electronic means such as emails and Microsoft Teams to transfer information, instead of passing physical items to each other such as papers and thumb drives.
 - If required to pass items physically, personnel are to sanitise their hands after sharing/passing items.

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Aerial Surveillance

Administration

- Personnel are to avoid using shared PPE where possible, however, PPE that must be shared (example such as life vests, harnesses) are to be sanitised before and after use.
 - Other examples of items to be sanitised: headsets, seat buckles and grab handles.
 - Personnel to be reminded to bring personal sanitisers/hand wipes.
- Deploy same personnel on sorties to reduce cross contamination.
 - Consider, if appropriate and permitted, the creation of 'bubbles' of aircrew and surveillance responders and minimise contact outside of these bubbles, for example by housing separately at or near the airport.
- Journey and time management/route planning
 - Identify bottlenecks, such as passport control, airport security and customs, precautions must be taken to ensure safe distancing measures are adhered to.
- If vehicles are required to be utilised for transportation to the airport, safe distancing and relevant PPE must always be adhered to.
 - Utilise separate vehicles as necessary to allow minimum safe distancing between all personnel.

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Aerial Surveillance

Administration

- Mealtime and restroom facilities
 - Restaurants/cafes at the airports may be closed due to COVID-19 or could be busy public areas where social distancing may prove to be difficult.
 - Pre-pack lunch/dinner to avoid having to utilise restaurants/cafes at the airport.
- When completing the aerial surveillance report after the overflight, personnel should be in a location that is adequately ventilated and able to facilitate safe distancing measures.



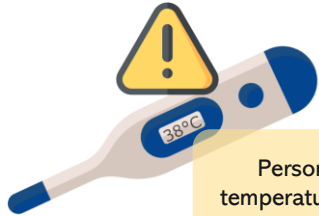
With reference to IATA, the modern cabin air offers a low risk of transmission, for the following reasons:

- Cabin air is fully renewed every 2-3 minutes
- Use of HEPA air filters which performs as well as hospitals.
- 99.993% bacteria/virus removal including SARS

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Aerial Surveillance



Administration

Personnel are to be reminded to take their temperature daily before and after their work shift

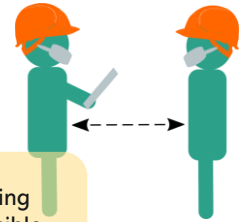
Administration

Personnel are to conduct self-assessment and record their temperature/self-assessment in a log-book



Administration

Personnel are to maintain physical distancing according to local regulation wherever possible and practicable



Administration

Regularly wash/sanitise hands with clean warm water and soap or utilise alcohol-based sanitiser. Avoid touching the face/mouth/eyes/nose



Do refer to [Specific Measures for In-field Response](https://www.oilspillresponse.com/covid-19/) document which can be found at <https://www.oilspillresponse.com/covid-19/> for more specific details. Task specific risk assessment should be used to govern the specific measures implemented.

COVID-19 Operational Considerations



Aerial Surveillance



Administration

Avoid large gatherings – stagger meals and breaks where possible

Administration

Ensure that proper waste management is carried out at all sites. Respirators and masks are to be disposed of properly



PPE

Don appropriate PPE based on risk assessment and do not share PPE and personal items



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