

Travelling with a Medical Condition

In some cases you are required to have a medical clearance before you can travel with Air Chathams

This medical clearance allows your doctor to consider whether it is safe for you to travel. It also allows Air Chathams to make arrangements for special services as required.

Air Chathams is committed to improving and facilitating passenger safety. A medical clearance is required if you have a medical condition which results in there being doubt that you can complete the flight safely or which poses a risk to other passengers. Most medical cases are straightforward, but some require individual assessment and you may be asked to travel with an escort.

Some examples of conditions that require a Medical Clearance include but are not limited to:

- Recent illness, hospitalisation, surgery or injury, including bone fractures
- Heart disease
- Lung disease
- Ear and sinus problems
- Psychiatric conditions
- Late pregnancy (beyond 37 weeks for a single pregnancy or beyond 31 weeks if a multiple pregnancy)
- Complicated pregnancy
- Any illness that could be contagious at the time of travel (particularly chicken pox, tuberculosis, measles and mumps)
- You are travelling for medical reasons or treatment

Medical clearance is always required for special medical equipment including:

- CPAP/VPAP
- Medical Oxygen (concentrator or bottles)
- Nebulisers
- Syringe pumps
- Ventilators

To prevent interference with aircraft systems, all electronic equipment must be approved by Air Chathams for use on board.

If a Medical clearance is required prior to travel

You will need to submit a completed Medical Clearance form to Air Chathams at least 3 days prior to travel. Air Chathams endeavour to approve your travel rapidly, however if the form is submitted within 3 days of the intended date of travel Air Chathams may not be able to provide clearance for your preferred departure date due to logistical and/or medical reasons.

The Medical Clearance form is available from the Air Chathams website.

The Medical Clearance form is in two sections

- Section 1 is the form for you or your Agent to complete.
- Section 2 is for your Doctor to complete. (the Doctor will need to have the medical guidelines for Doctors, also available on the website)

Once both Sections have been completed, please submit them to Air Chathams.

nzreservations@airchathams.co.nz

We will consider your travel & advise you by e-mail if you have been accepted for travel.

No medical clearance necessary - but please tell us

A medical clearance is not required for the following conditions but, in order to provide you with the best possible service, it is recommended that you provide Air Chathams with advance notice of your travel and seating requirements. When you book your travel, please let us know what kind of assistance you require. Civil Aviation rules require all passengers be able to place their seatback in the upright position when required.

- Otherwise healthy but have mobility difficulties and need a wheelchair
- Rehabilitated paraplegic/quadriplegic (you may need an escort)
- Visually impaired or blind
- Hearing impaired or deaf



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Medical Clearance Form

Section 1
To be completed by
PASSENGERS or
AGENT

Please complete the form in CAPITAL letters. Answer all questions.
 To be completed by Section 2 of this form must be completed by a Doctor if the passenger has a serious or unstable medical condition (refer Medical Guidelines for Doctors).

1. Personal Information

Name/Title:	Sex: Male Female	Date of Birth:
Contact Telephone:	Email Address:	

2. Travel Information

Booking Reference(s) / PNR:

	First Sector	Date of Flight	Flight Number	Travelling From	Travelling To
1					
2					
3					
4					

Nature of Disability, Illness, or Injury

3. Escort Details (if applicable)

Name:	Booking Reference:
Is the intended escort capable and prepared to provide all assistance including feeding, toileting and lifting if required? N/A YES NO	
Is the escort medically trained? N/A YES NO	

4. Assistance Requirements

Is a wheelchair required? YES NO	If YES, please indicate which category:	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	WCHR: Cannot walk far, but can manage stairs
	<input type="checkbox"/>	WCHS: Cannot walk far, cannot manage stairs
	<input type="checkbox"/>	WCHC: Unable to walk, needs assistance to cabin seat

5. Oxygen Requirements

Is supplementary oxygen required? YES NO	All oxygen and medical equipment requests must meet airlines requirements for In-flight Oxygen.
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6. List of Medical Equipment Being Carried

For example, CPAP machines or VPAP, Nebulisers, Ventilators, or Oxygen (concentrator or bottles)

Equipment Type	Make / Model	Dimensions	When required? (tick)	
			All phases of flight	Not during take-off or landing



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7. Other Special Services Required:

8. Passenger's Declaration

I understand that submission of this form constitutes written consent for Air Chathams to contact my treatment providers if required to clarify my fitness to travel and to provide Air Chathams with the information required for the purpose of determining my fitness to fly. I relieve that doctor of his/her professional duty of confidentiality in respect of such information

Name:

Signature:

Date:



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MEDICAL CLEARANCE

Section 2 To be completed by nominated DOCTOR	Section 2 of this form must be completed by a Doctor if the passenger has a serious or unstable medical condition - refer Medical Guidelines for Doctors The Doctor is requested to answer all questions		
PASSENGER'S NAME:	MALE <input type="checkbox"/> FEMALE <input type="checkbox"/>	DATE OF BIRTH	
DOCTOR NAME: NAME OF HOSPITAL/CLINIC: MOBILE: FAX: EMAIL: Note: You may be contacted by Air Chathams for further information to allow your patient to fly. Please provide all contact information requested		SPECIALITY:	
NATURE of ILLNESS or INJURY			
Is the passenger free from Contagious and/or Communicable disease? YES / NO Comments:			
Would the physical and/or mental condition of the: passenger cause distress, discomfort or a safety risk to other passengers? YES / NO Comments:			
Can the passenger use a normal aircraft seat with seatback placed in the UPRIGHT position? YES / NO Comments:			
Does the passenger need supplementary Oxygen in flight? YES / NO Comments:			
Can the passenger take care of their own needs on board? - Including feeding, toileting, mobility etc. YES / NO Comments:			
Does the passenger need any Medication, other than self-administered? YES / NO Comments:			
Escort Required: Yes / No TYPE: Companion / Nurse / Doctor Comments:			



Air Chathams Ltd

Medical Clearance – Part 2 (Continued)

WHEELCHAIR REQUIRED? YES / NO	Cannot walk to aircraft, but can manage stairs <input type="checkbox"/> Cannot walk to aircraft, cannot manage stairs <input type="checkbox"/> Requires assistance to cabin seat <input type="checkbox"/>	
SPECIAL SERVICES REQUIRED? YES / NO	DETAILS:	
Other remarks or information in the interest of the passenger's smooth and comfortable travel.		
DOCTORS DECLARATION I understand the final decision for passenger acceptance for travel rests with Air Chathams alone. - I have read and understood the Air Chathams Medical Guidelines for Doctors. - In my opinion, this person is safe to undertake the proposed flights, is free from communicable disease, and is not likely to affect the safety or wellbeing of other passengers or crew. - I agree that the services requested above are appropriate in the circumstances. This passenger is able to take care of their own meals, transfers, personal hygiene, medication and other needs in flight (or is escorted by someone who can assist with all these needs). - Where an ESCORT is required, I believe they are qualified and have all necessary equipment to deal with the patient's needs and any likely complications during the journey.		
NAME:	SIGNATURE	DATE
MEDICAL COUNCIL NUMBER:		

Air Chathams accepts the passenger named on this form for travel	YES / NO	
Comments:		
NAME:	SIGNATURE:	DATE



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Medical Guidelines for Doctors completing Section two of a Medical Clearance form

When to submit a Medical Clearance form

Complete a Medical Clearance form if your patient has any of the following:

1. An injury, illness or medical condition that may cause significant problems for them or others in flight. (eg. Heart disease/angina, severe mobility problems, psychiatric problems, injury & unable to bend at the knee)
2. A medical condition that may be made worse by the flight itself. (eg. Significant lung disease, ear & sinus problems, recent surgery)
3. An infectious disease that could be contagious at the time of travel (eg. Chicken pox, TB, measles, mumps, influenza)
4. Late pregnancy (beyond 37 weeks for a single pregnancy or beyond 31 weeks if a multiple pregnancy)
5. Complicated pregnancy
6. A requirement for special medical equipment, (eg. Nebulisers, oxygen, syringe pumps, CPAP)

NOTE: A wheelchair to the aircraft door alone does not require a Medical Clearance.

Considerations when assessing fitness to fly

Civil Aviation Rules require all passengers to be able to use the aircraft seat with the seat back upright. Exit row seats are only to be occupied by able bodied passengers.

Aircraft cabins are pressurised, but not to sea level. The cabin pressure may be equivalent of up to 3,050 meters (10,000 feet). This results in;

- a) Less available oxygen (PaO_2 drops from 21% to 10-12%)
- b) Gas expansion in body cavities (approximately one third increase in volume) – particularly relevant to trapped gas in middle ear, sinuses & after surgery
- c) Air travel also results in low humidity, turbulence, immobility and increased stress for some passengers.

Consider completing a Medical Clearance for passengers with:

- a) an obvious medical condition that may cause difficulties or challenges during boarding (eg. New limb casts, resolving chicken pox, etc)
- b) continence & mobility problems

Also consider the comfort of the person & other travellers

Some of Air Chathams flights operate without cabin crew.

If operating with cabin crew they are NOT authorised to give special assistance to particular passengers, to the detriment of their service to other passengers. - Cabin crew often are required to handle food and are therefore UNABLE to assist with toileting needs. - They are trained in FIRST AID procedures only and are NOT PERMITTED to administer any injection, or give medication. - Please ensure the passenger has all the necessary help via their travel companion/escort – if required

