

CVDR/S6/21/5/5

COVID-19 Recovery Committee

**5th Meeting, 2021 (Session 6), Thursday 23
September 2021**

SPICe: Vaccine passports around the world

This note provides some information on the operation of vaccination passports in other countries. It is based on information set out in the [international vaccine monitor by the Ada Lovelace Institute](#) (most recently updated as at 17 September 2021).

World Health Organisation	<p>On 15 July 2021, the WHO's eighth meeting of the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee for COVID-19 reiterated the WHO's previous stance that member states should "not require proof of vaccination against COVID-19 for international travel as the only pathway or condition permitting international travel, given limited global access and inequitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines." Instead "State Parties should consider a risk-based approach to the facilitation of international travel by lifting measures, such as testing and/or quarantine requirements, when appropriate, in accordance with the WHO guidance."</p>
African Union	<p>On 8 April 2021, head of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention John Nkengasong said that that any imposition of a vaccination passport will create huge inequities and will further exacerbate others, if imposed when Africa has not had a chance to have access to vaccines.</p>
European union	<p>On 20 May 2021, the EU Parliament and EU Council agreed a deal on the EU's digital Covid certificates, with certificates coming into use by 1 July 2021. People will be able to get a certificate proving they got a single jab, even if their vaccine requires two doses but it will be up to individual member states whether they accept that as sufficient. The deal also states that countries ideal should not impose additional restrictions on certificate holders unless they're necessary to protect public health, but it remains up to member states to decide whether certificate holders still need to quarantine or get tested. The agreement allows for a six-week transition period during which countries can still issue their own certificates.</p> <p>On 25 May 2021, EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said that the infrastructure for digital vaccination certificates will be ready at EU level from 1 June 2021 and member states then would be able to connect to the system from mid-June.</p>

	<p>On 31 May 2021, the EU Commission proposed that from 1 July 2021, all quarantine restrictions on those have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 should be lifted, using a digital COVID certificate to provide proof of vaccination.</p> <p>On 1 June 2021, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Greece and Poland began issuing the EU's digital COVID certificate and connected to the EU gateway which allows for the verification of the digital certificates, hosted by the Commission's data centre in Luxembourg.</p>
Australia	<p>On 13 August 2021, the premier of Victoria, Daniel Andrews, stated that the National Cabinet had commissioned the Victoria, Tasmania and Northern Territory state governments to investigate the possible use of vaccine passports. Later that day, Prime Minister Scott Morrison suggested vaccine passports might not be needed for interstate travel if Australia achieved its targets of 70% or 80% vaccination.</p> <p>On 20 August 2021, the National Cabinet discussed work of the Data and Digital Ministers on incorporating the proof of vaccination status into existing check-in apps to assist with contact tracing. However, they also indicated that it will be optional for individuals to include their vaccination status.</p> <p>On 25 August 2021, Prime Minister Scott Morrison said any business could legitimately require proof of vaccination as a condition of entry.</p>
Belgium	<p>On 19 July 2021, the federal government Consultative Committee agreed that from 13 August 2021, a COVID Safe Ticket (indicating full vaccination, recovery from COVID-19, or a recent negative test) will be available for outdoor events of over 1500 people. Events that require the Ticket from attendees will not need to require masks or social distancing. From 1 September 2021, indoor events will also be eligible to use the Ticket to relax restrictions</p>
Canada	<p>On 27 August 2021, The Liberal Party, led by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, said that if they were re-elected (election 20 September), they would provide C\$1 billion to cover costs incurred by the provinces in creating vaccine passports systems.</p>
Alberta	<p>On 16 September 2021, Premier Jason Kennedy announced that from later that month Albertans would be required to proof of vaccination or a negative Covid test for restaurants, bars and indoor organized events. Businesses that choose not to ask for vaccination status will have a separate, more strict set of regulations, such as closing all indoor dining and limiting outdoor service to tables of six people from the same household.</p>
British Columbia	<p>On 23 August 2021, Premier John Horgan said that British Columbia will require proof of vaccination in order to access indoor hospitality, sports and music venues, weddings and other private and public indoor social events. From 13 September 2021, people will be</p>

	required to prove they have had at least one dose, and from 24 October 2021, prove they have completed a course of vaccination.
Manitoba	On 27 August 2021, Manitoba Health and Seniors Care Minister Audrey Gordon announced that from 3 September 2021 , those over the age of 12 will need to present proof of vaccination to participate in certain events and activities
Ontario	On 1 September 2021, Premier Doug Ford announced that from 22 September 2021, people in Ontario will have to show proof of vaccination against COVID-19 to enter restaurants, theatres, gyms and other indoor public venues. Initially, residents will show a PDF or vaccination receipt along with a government-issued piece of ID. In late October, the province aims to launch a system to send everyone a QR code to accompany their vaccination receipt and an app with a scannable QR code to provide proof of vaccination.
Denmark	<p>On 15 June 2021, the Danish government agreed to a phasing out of the Coronapas over the next few months. This is on the basis of professional assessments of the Coronapas by the Statens Serum Institut.</p> <p>On 27 August 2021, the Danish government announced it would not extend its COVID restrictions beyond 10 September 2021, including its use of the Coronapas.</p> <p>On 10 September 2021, Denmark ended its remaining COVID-19 restrictions, including the requirement that people show proof of vaccination to enter nightclubs.</p>
France	<p>On 12 May 2021, the National Assembly approved plans for a health pass, in digital or paper form, that provides proof of vaccination, recovery or a negative COVID test. From 9 June 2021, the pass will let people attend sporting events and other large gatherings, though it cannot be used to restrict entry to restaurants, cinemas or stores. The restrictions will last until 30 September 2021, unless renewed.</p> <p>On 12 July 2021, President Macron announced that requirements to show a COVID green pass would be extended to events of over 50, including cinemas, theatres etc. by 21 July 2021 and later to bars, cafés, restaurant, hospitals, planes trains and coaches in August.</p> <p>On 18 July 2021, more than 100,000 people protested the proposed scheme. On 19 July 2021, the government made concessions on the scheme, including dropping the fine for venues failing to check passes from €45,000 to €7,500 and changing requirements for shopping centres.</p> <p>On 26 July 2021, the National Assembly and the Senate agreed legislation for the COVID pass, which includes vaccination, proof of recovery or a negative PCR test. Under the legislation, the pass will be required to access restaurants, bars, museums, cinemas and large public gatherings from August, but not shopping centres. Venues found not to be checking the pass can be forcibly closed. The pass</p>

	<p>will also not be required for 12-17 year olds until 30 September 2021. The legislation will only apply until 15 November 2021, at which point it will need be voted on again to extend the use of the pass.</p> <p>On 31 July 2021, an estimated 200,000 people again protested the legislation across France.</p> <p>On 5 August 2021, the Constitutional Council court approved the majority of the legislation requiring a COVID-19 health pass to access long-distance travel, indoor hospitality and large gatherings. The court rejected the suspension of short-term contracts for employees who don't present a health pass but allowed the suspension without pay of employees with long-term contracts.</p> <p>On 4 September, Labour Minister Elisabeth Borne said that France could ease health pass restrictions on large shopping malls if the COVID-19 situation continued to improve.</p> <p>On 15 September, it became a requirement for health staff in France to present a vaccination certificate to be allowed to continue working. This includes caregivers, firefighters, paramedics, home care workers and all staff working in health facilities.</p>
Germany	<p>On 24 July 2021, Helge Braun, Head of the Chancellery, told BILD that in the event of a high infection rate access to restaurants, cinemas and stadiums visits could be restricted to those who are already vaccinated.</p> <p>On 4 August 2021, it was reported that Health Minister Jens Spahn will put forward a proposal to require for vaccination, testing or recovery for access to indoor hospitality, hotels, gyms and similar venues, alongside indoor and outdoor large gatherings, at a meeting of federal government and state leaders the following week. The proposal would also include charging for previously free rapid tests from October</p>
Greece	<p>On 16 July 2021, Greece began requiring proof of vaccination or recovery from COVID-19 for access to indoor restaurants, cafes, bars and cinemas, along with outdoor clubs and music venues, although children unable to be vaccinated could provide proof of a negative test instead.</p>
Ireland	<p>On 12 July 2021, the Irish government approved legislation to allow indoor hospitality to reopen in July for those who have been vaccinated against Covid-19 or can prove they have recently recovered, either via paper or the EU digital COVID certificate, will be permitted to eat and drink at indoor venues. People who are aged under 18 will also be allowed access to indoor hospitality provided they are accompanied by vaccinated parents or another vaccinated person.</p> <p>On 23 July 2021, the Irish government published guidance indicating that EU Digital COVID Certificates or HSE COVID-19 Vaccination Record, alongside photo identification will be required to access indoor hospitality.</p>

<p>Israel</p>	<p>On 15 February 2021, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office said that from Sunday, 21 February, Israelis in possession of a "Green Pass" - a certificate of presumed COVID-19 immunity, displayed on an Israeli Health Ministry app - will be allowed entry to leisure facilities such as gyms and hotels.</p> <p>On 1 June 2021, Israel suspended the use of its Green Pass system, due to high vaccination rates and low COVID-19 case numbers.</p> <p>On 22 July 2021, Prime Minister Naftali Bennett announced Israel would reintroduce the use of the Green Pass system on 29 July 2021, subject to approval by the cabinet.</p> <p>On 19 August 2021, the government announced that the Green Pass requirements would be extended to children between the ages of three and eleven. As that age range is still ineligible for vaccination, the government also announced tests for those children would be state-funded.</p>
<p>Italy</p>	<p>On 22 July 2021, Health Minister Roberto Speranza said that from 6 August 2021, a COVID Green Pass would be required in to access sports venues, gyms, museums, trade fairs and indoor hospitality.</p> <p>On 5 August 2021, the Italian government announced that the Green Pass would also be required for teachers in in-person education settings and for access to trains, planes, ferries and coaches.</p> <p>On 1 September, the Green Pass officially became mandatory on high-speed trains, planes, ferries and inter-regional coaches.</p> <p>On 9 September 2021, the Italian government extended the requirement to show a Green Pass to those working as catering and cleaning staff in schools and nursing homes.</p> <p>On 16 September 2021, the Italian government approved measures making it obligatory for all workers, in the public and private sector, as well as the self-employed, either to show proof of vaccination, a negative test or recent recovery from infection. From 15 October 2021, anyone without a pass will face suspension from work and may have their pay stopped after five days.</p>
<p>Portugal</p>	<p>On 10 July 2021, Portugal began requiring proof of vaccination, a negative coronavirus test or proof of recovery, via the EU digital COVID-19 certificate, to dine indoors in 60 areas identified as having high rates of COVID-19.</p>
<p>Russia (Moscow)</p>	<p>On 25 June 2021, it was announced that all Moscow restaurants, cafes and bars will admit only customers who have been vaccinated, have recovered from COVID-19 in the past six months, or can provide a negative coronavirus test from the previous 72 hours. Other cities and regions are also taking similar measures. Proof of vaccination will be available via QR code from a government website and won't be required for children.</p> <p>On 19 July 2021, Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyenin ended the requirements for proof of vaccination or a negative test to enter</p>

	restaurants, bars and cafes, citing a reduction in the spread of COVID.
Spain	On 15 April 2021, Alfredo González, Secretary-General for Digital Health, Information and Innovation of the National Health System , said that Spain has begun working on implementing the European Union's Digital Green Certificate, aiming to introduce the system in June.
Wales	<p>On 17 September 2021, Mark Drakeford, First Minister of Wales, announced that from 11 October 2021, those over the age of 18 in Wales will need show an NHS COVID Pass to enter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nightclubs. • Indoor, non-seated events for more than 500 people • Outdoor, non-seated events for more than 4,000 people. • Any event with more than 10,000 people attending <p>[NB for further details see COVID Pass for events and nightclubs announced GOV.WALES - which says</p> <p>“People who are fully vaccinated in Wales can already download the NHS COVID Pass to securely show and share their vaccine status. It also allows people to show they have had a negative lateral flow test result within the last 48 hours.</p>
California	<p>On 12 August 2021, San Francisco Mayor London Breed announced that from 20 August 2021, proof of vaccination will be required for entry into indoor hospitality, gyms and large indoor events of over 1000 people. From 13 October 2021, there will also be a proof of vaccination requirement for staff at those venues. Individuals will need to present a physical vaccination card, Californian digital COVID-19 vaccine record, or approved private vaccine passport app. On 18 August 2021, the California Department of Public Health announced that from 20 September 2021, proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test will be required to attend indoor events of over 1000 people, down from the previous minimum of 5000 people.</p>
New York	On 3 August 2021, Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that from 16 August 2021, people will be required to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination for access to indoor hospitality and gyms, and enforcement action will begin from 13 September 2021.

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