

March 2022

FULLY VACCINATED TRAVELLERS ARRIVING NIGERIA ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED TO TAKE THE PRE-DEPARTURE PCR COVID-19 TEST

Introduction

On Monday, March 21, 2022, following a meeting on the review of the International Travel Protocol Guidelines into Nigeria, the Chairman of the Presidential Steering Committee on COVID-19 in Nigeria announced that fully vaccinated passengers arriving in Nigeria will no longer be required to present a negative COVID-19 test result upon arrival into the country.

Need-to-know Information!

- 1. The update takes effect from Monday, April 4, 2022.
- 2. Fully vaccinated inbound passengers will no longer be required to present a negative COVID-19 test result on arrival.
- Unvaccinated passengers or passengers who have only taken the first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine are expected to take a COVID-19
 PCR test 48 hours before departure or do a Day 2 and Day 7 test on arrival. Payment for this test will be made through the official
 Federal Government travel portal platform.
- 4. The fully vaccinated passengers will be required to take the rapid antigen test at the airport by the NCDC officials upon arrival into the country at no cost.

Conclusion

Considering the high vaccination rate all over the world and a decline in the infection rate of the virus, countries all over the world such as the United Kingdom, Egypt, France, Norway, Portugal, Canada, Sweden, Saudi Arabia etc., have since relaxed the pre-entry test requirements for passengers arriving in their country. The review could not have come at a better time as many passengers have been clamouring for a review of the travel protocol guidelines and urging the Federal Government to phase out the COVID-19 PCR testing requirement, accept the proof of vaccination as clearance to travel without paying such high amounts for the COVID-19 tests. This is a welcome development in ensuring ease of travel into the country during a pandemic.

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