

From: EU HEALTHY GATEWAYS Joint Action - 5.1.5

**Sent:** Fri 4/17/2020 7:03:30 AM

**Subject:** RE: EU HEALTHY GATEWAYS: Advice for reducing droplet transmission of COVID-19 on board conveyances by using face masks (Version 1 - 09/04/2020)

Received: Fri 4/17/2020 7:06:29 AM

Dear 5.1.2e

Thank you for your feedback and for enriching the discussion on the topic.

We recognise that the use of masks in the community is a controversial issue and there are strong opinions from both sides.

We will revise the HG interim advice document and replace the text "*Passengers and crew on board any type of public conveyance operating nationally or internationally, who are not ill or showing symptoms compatible with COVID-19 should consider wearing a face mask*" with "*Competent authorities may consider advising passengers and crew on board any type of public conveyance operating nationally or internationally, who are not ill or showing symptoms compatible with COVID-19 to wear a face mask taking into consideration their national epidemiological aspects and the international spread of disease*". This is in line with the ECDC technical report about public transport "wearing a face mask could be considered, especially when using public transport". This HG document is only an interim advice, our priority should be to work together and plan for the re-start and recovery phase and what the measures could be applied for the transport sector when lifting the containment measures. There are already discussions in the aviation sector (EASA, CAPSCA, ICAO, WHO), there will be soon discussions for the maritime sector (including

ECSA, CLIA EURO, CLIA international) and the ground transport sector (including UIC).

We are suggesting to start working under the three work packages on the possible options for measures by the EU MS and the available scientific evidence and consider this in the context of the specific transport sector. Our partners in Germany and Sweden can coordinate the work for the air sector, Greece and Italy for the maritime sector and Lithuania and Poland for the ground transportation sector). RIVM could participate and support all sectors. Within these working groups all possible measures and policies should be explored with close collaboration with the industry.

We have built all these years an excellent partnership and under these extraordinary times we can work together supporting each other and planning for the next steps.

Kind regards,

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