



**NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION
(NEMO)**

**MINISTRY OF NATIONAL SECURITY
ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
WEST INDIES**

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HEALTH SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE

**PROTOCOL FOR THE ENTRY OF TRAVELLERS TO ST. VINCENT AND
THE GRENADINES - July 1-31, 2020**

AIM: The safe entry of travellers to St. Vincent and the Grenadines in a manner that reduces the risk of the importation and subsequent transmission of COVID-19 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To establish the risk of the arriving traveller introducing new COVID-19 to SVG;
2. To minimize exposure of residents of SVG to new COVID-19;
3. Early identification of potential exposure to new COVID-1, and
4. Early containment of new COVID-19.

ESTABLISH RISK OF ARRIVING TRAVELLER:

1. Completion of VINCYCOVID online application process (coronavirustaskforcesvg@gmail.com or nemosvgeoc@gmail.com)

Or

Completion of VINCYCOVID questionnaire on flight prior to arrival.

2. Completion of Health forms at Ports of Entry by Port Health Officers.

TESTING & QUARANTINE REQUIREMENTS:

- PHASE #1-The period of July 1-31 will be used to determine the incidence of COVID-19 in passengers arriving from different countries. **All travellers entering St Vincent and the Grenadines will have a PCR COVID-19 test done on arrival.**
- PHASE #2 -Commencing August 1, 2020, based on the data gained during Phase #1and the current epidemiology of the COVID-19 Pandemic, arriving travellers will be subject to PCR COVID-19 testing, depending on their country of origin. The country of origin will be the last country that the traveller was present in for at least 14 days.
 - CARICOM Bubble: The CARICOM Bubble consists of Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, BVI, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago. Travellers whose country of origin is one in the CARICOM Bubble will require the following to enter St. Vincent and the Grenadines:
 - VINCYCOVID online application process and/or
 - Completed COVID-19 Questionnaire(on vessel)
 - No COVID-19 laboratory test.
 - Non- CARICOM Bubble: Travellers from countries of origin not in the CARICOM Bubblewill require the following to enter St. Vincent and the Grenadines:
 - VINCYCOVID online application process and/or
 - Completed COVID-19 Questionnaire (on vessel)
 - PCR testing on arrival
 - Court-Ordered 24-hour quarantine (Await results in home or hotel).
- Other circumstances:
 - Travellers arriving with negative COVID-19 antibody tests results (a test done within 5 days) and a negative rapid COVID-19 antigen test or negative PCR result (a test done within 2 days)

- will not be required to have a SVG COVID-19 PCR test done on arrival and will not be required to quarantine.
- Travellers to SVG Island Resorts /Hotels considered Bubble Sites (the entire island or hotel facility is considered a COVID-19 free space) with negative antibody tests results (a test done within 5 days) and negative rapid COVID-19 antigen test or negative PCR result (a test done within 2 days) will not be required to have a SVG COVID-19 PCR test done on arrival and will not be required to quarantine.

PROCESS ON ARRIVAL:

1. Pre-arrival check in at Port of Entry in St. Vincent and the Grenadines:
 - a. VINCYCOVID App*Approval
 - b. VINCYCOVID Questionnaire
2. Testing Protocol for travellers meeting the requirement for a SVG COVID-19 PCR test:
 - a. The Port Health Team will collect a nasal swab specimen for a **SVG COVID-19 PCR** test from all qualifying disembarking travellers. This sample will be collected prior to the traveller being granted permission to leave the Port of Entry. The traveller will then immediately proceed to their place of accommodation for a 24 hour quarantine period while they await the result of the SVG COVID-19 PCR.
 - b. Travelers who enter with approved documentation of a negative (IgG & IgM) COVID-19 antibody test done within the past 5 days and a negative **SVG COVID-19 PCR** test will not need to quarantine beyond the 24 hour initial quarantine period. Such travellers will be required to monitor their temperatures for the next 14 days and report any elevations to the local health authority.
 - c. All travellers who enter with approved documentation of a negative (IgG & IgM) COVID-19 antibody test done within the past 5 days and a negative **COVID-19 PCR** test done within 2 days will not need to quarantine. Such a traveller would be required to monitor his/her temperature for the next 14 days and report any elevations to the local health authority.

- d. All travellers who enter with approved documentation of a negative COVID-19 antibody test done within the past 5 - 7 days but a positive **SVG COVID-19 PCR** test, will be isolated in an approved facility for the next 14 days at the cost of the traveller.
 - e. Travellers who arrive without any approved COVID-19 test results may be subject to a rapid COVID-19 antibody along with a PCR specimen collection prior to departing the airport to private accommodation.
3. Testing procedures:
- a. All passengers will be screened before entering the arrivals area. Screening may include probing for symptoms, temperature checks and laboratory specimen collection.
 - b. Hand hygiene will be enforced.
 - c. Photo identification will be required for ALL.
 - d. Area for screening will be sanitized after each group is screened.
 - e. All travellers will be required to go immediately to their private accommodation site to await the results of the PCR test.
 - f. Persons going to a government quarantine facility will be boarded on agreed appropriate vehicles to await departure.
 - g. Persons with adequate home facilities for quarantine (relative to risk assessment) will be allowed to leave.

REQUIREMENTS OF DISCHARGE FROM 24 hour QUARANTINE:

1. Objective measures:

- a. Negative Rapid Antibody Test and
 - b. Negative PCR Test and
 - c. Absence of signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
2. No known exposure to a known COVID-19 positive person.

* The VINCYCOVID APP is currently being developed.

Please note that this protocol may be revised at any time at the discretion of the Health Services Subcommittee of the National Emergency Committee/COVID-19 Task Force, Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment.

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