



EASA
European Aviation Safety Agency

Pilots' Age Limits Workshop

18-19 March 2019

20 March 2019

Your safety is our mission.

An agency of the European Union 



Workshop data

- More than 60 participants
- More than 25 nationalities
- Organisations: European Commission, ICAO, IATA
- Stakeholders representing: pilot associations, medical societies, HEMS, operators in both fixed and rotary wing
- Non EASA states – China, Japan, US, NZ



Points from the discussion

- The study only looked at sudden incapacitation. Subtle incapacitation was not considered
- The study showed an increasing risk for pilots above the age of 60
- All the neuropsychological abilities declined with age, with the exception of reasoning performances.
- In order to increase the age limits and maintain safety additional mitigating measures on medical and operational level need to be in place
- Early cardiovascular risk factor management indifferent of the implementation of a change in age limits
- The need for pilot health data for future evaluation of the age limits



Conclusions

- The workshop was intended for collecting data from stakeholders
- The study recommendations:
 - Single pilot operations:
 - Recommendation: extend age limit of CAT pilots flying single pilot operations from 60 years to the pilot's 65th birthday.
 - Extension of the age limit for single pilot operations should be accompanied by additional measures to reduce the likelihood of pilot incapacitation to meet current operational accident acceptability values.
 - Multi pilot operations:
 - Recommendation: keep the age limit at 65 years as it is currently set by EASA (FCL.065; EASA, 2016).
 - Use the same additional measures as for single pilots to reduce the likelihood of pilot incapacitation.
- The study results/recommendations will be also discussed during EASA's Medical Experts Group (MEG) on 4-5 April 2019



Next steps

- Development of options based on the feedback from the Workshop and MEG
- EASA high-level decision on next steps
 - Impact assessment to be consulted with EASA Advisory Bodies
 - Further feedback from the advisory bodies on the way forward
- Final high-level decision following consultation
- Regulatory activities in congruence with the decision



EASA
European Aviation Safety Agency

Thank you for your attention!



medical@easa.europa.eu

Your safety is our mission.

An agency of the European Union 