Flyers to Singapore can use IATA Travel Pass from May

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Singapore : Singapore will allow passengers flying to the country to share pre-departure Covid-19 test results with airlines and immigration staff upon arrival using IATA's Travel Pass from May following its efforts to reopen its borders.

The International Air Transport Association's app is a digital solution that can be used by people to store Covid test results from accredited laboratories. The app, being trialled by over 20 airlines including Singapore Airlines, is available for download from the second half of April.

IATA expects such solutions to help drive the adoption of digital health certificates.

"As we work to safely rebuild the Changi air hub, we will continue to explore other solutions that can provide similarly secure and verifiable means of sharing health certificates for safe international travel," said Kevin Shum, Director-General, Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore, in a statement on April 5.

With coronavirus cases in Singapore under control, the focus has shifted to vaccinations and reopening borders. Since Singapore has no domestic market to speak of, international travel is vital to the economy and Singapore Airlines' financial prospects. Also, talks are underway with Hong Kong and Australia to start travel bubbles that would replace mandatory quarantine with tests.

CAAS and IATA will also work on enhancing the IATA travel pass, including

enabling QR code scanning by immigration officers, according to the statement on April 5. Singapore Airlines said in March that it would become the world's first airline to pilot the IATA Travel Pass, starting with passengers flying to London.