Class 1/2 Certification - Depression



Notes:

- Until a minimum of 4 weeks following resolution of symptoms. If on a Selective Serotonin Re-uptake Inhibitor (SSRI)
- (see Note 2) if the type or dosage of SSRI is changed, then a further minimum 1 month period of unfitness is required.
- Report(s) from treating physician should be available to the CAA Medical Assessor (Class
 1) or Aeromedical Examiner (AME) (Class 2) and confirm full recovery without symptoms,
 with or without stable continuing acceptable treatment:
 - a) Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) or Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT) and/or $\,$
 - b) SSRIs: only CITALOPRAM, SERTRALINE or ESCITALOPRAM are acceptable as maintenance therapy. No other antidepressant medication is permitted.

The pilot should only be returned to flying duties if psychiatric assessment is satisfactory and either treatment is complete without recurrence or they remain on maintenance SSRI therapy. The Hamilton Depression Scale score should be satisfactory (a score of 7 or less may be acceptable).

CAA specialist assessment may be indicated in some Class 1 cases and for all cases (Class 1 and 2) where the pilot is still undergoing therapy and/or taking an acceptable SSRI. Class 2 pilots who have completed therapy will not usually need to be seen by a CAA specialist advisor in psychiatry

- 3) Assessment to include review of reports and Hamilton Depression Scale. If the type or dosage of the SSRI has been changed, or the condition is not stable, then a further period(s) of unfitness shall be required until both dose and condition are stable. Further report(s) from treating physician may be required. If the SSRI is being discontinued the earliest return to fitness is 4 weeks after ceasing medication.
- 4) Simulator check (Class 1) or Medical Flight Test (MFT) (Class 2 with a Chief Flying Instructor (CFI) or Flight Instructor Examiner (FIE)) is required.
- Follow up to be determined by CAA Psychiatrist- initially every 3 months whilst being treated. 'Buddy reports' may be requested.
 - * OML Operational Multicrew Limitation
 - ** SIC specific regular medical examination(s) Prior to undertaking a revalidation or a renewal medical assessment the AME should review the applicant's CAA medical records to ensure they are aware of the relevant medical history. SIC should be applied before a return to flying and follow up and removal will be determined by a Medical Assessor.
- 6) Follow up: Class 2 AME (with clinical reports if available) Class 1 to be determined by CAA Psychiatrist. Unrestricted Class 1 is only possible 6 months after cessation of all treatment.





