

DEAR ABBY

Write to Dear Abby online at dearabby.com or by mail at P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069



Dear Abby: My husband has a close friend I'll call "Al." (We are like family.) Over the past five months, Al has been seeing two women and sleeping with both of them. Neither one knows about the other. He admits that one of them thinks they are in a committed relationship, however, he refuses to choose between the two. He actually plans the exact same date so he can compare them! I feel bad for them and want to tell him what he's doing is wrong. My husband insists I shouldn't interfere. Al keeps saying he wants us to meet these women, and I just can't imagine keeping my mouth shut. What to do?

— *Right or Wrong in Virginia*
Dear Right or Wrong: Al is dishonest and lacks integrity. He may be a close friend, but that doesn't mean you must participate in the games he is playing. A way to avoid that would be to refuse to meet them.

Dear Abby: One of the things I always do when I have my parents and my sibling's family over is play the piano. My 80-year-old father LOVES to hear me play. I am an accomplished pianist and I love to play difficult pieces.

During their most recent visit, while I was "trying" to play the Warsaw Concerto for my father, my family was talking over my grand piano, my niece was chasing my grand-niece through the living room and my sister-in-law was filming me, which was chaotic and terribly distracting. I think they were rude and disrespectful.

How can I get them to stop this kind of behavior without sounding like a snotty jerk?

— *Serious Musician in Colorado*
Dear Musician: When you wish to perform a concert for your father, entertain your parents APART from your sibling and the kids.

Dear Abby: My husband of 30 years died eight months ago. It was a second marriage for both of us, and we each have two adult children. Since the funeral, I have seen his kids and grandkids only when they need something, like college tuition or car repairs. (I knew it would happen.) They do include me in events which require gifts, probably because I continue to be generous. Three other grandparents are very involved, which is fine, but I feel awkward and not cared about. My husband would be so disappointed. How should I handle this?

— *Wistful Widow in Michigan*
Dear Widow: Handle it by facing reality. If you are invited to an event you don't wish to attend, send the "kid" or "grandkid" a nice card with your congratulations. If someone asks you why, be forthright. Tell the person you have realized the only times you were included are those that require gifts. Then be quiet, hang onto your sense of humor and listen. It's important that you focus your attention on moving forward in your life and doing things that bring you pleasure. Above all, do not nurture relationships in which you feel you are not valued.

EXPLAINER

How vaccine passports for global travel will work

BY KELVIN CHAN
 Associated Press

LONDON — Boarding pass, suitcase, passport and ... digital vaccination certificate?

Keen to avoid losing another summer of holiday revenue to the coronavirus pandemic, the European Union, some Asian governments and the airline industry are scrambling to develop so-called COVID-19 vaccine passports to help kickstart international travel.

They're working on systems that would allow travelers to use mobile phone apps to prove they've been vaccinated, which could help them avoid onerous quarantine requirements at their destinations.

But the multiple efforts underscore the lack of one central international system to electronically verify vaccination status. The projects also face technical challenges in working together, while questions about privacy and vaccine inequality linger.

Here's a look at how vaccine passports work:

Official efforts

The first part of a vaccination passport is the user's official or approved electronic immunization record.

The European Union, China and Japan are all working on their own digital vaccination certificates for cross-border travel. The U.K., meanwhile, updated its National Health Service app last week to let fully vaccinated users prove their status when traveling abroad, coinciding with an easing of travel rules.

Testing is under way for the EU's digital certificate, which will also confirm COVID-19 test results or recovery from the virus and is set to go live by the end of June, allowing residents to reunite

with friends and relatives living across 30 European countries. It's still unclear where and how exactly travelers in the EU, which doesn't have internal border checkpoints, will have their certificates checked. Officials in Brussels say that will be up to individual countries. The idea is that travelers will flash a QR code on their phones so it can be scanned at, say, an airport or train station, using an official verification app that checks with national databases, via an EU technical "gateway."

Travel apps

Travelers also need a smartphone app to carry any eventual official vaccination certificates. The EU's project includes open source technology European countries can use to build their own official mobile wallets.

The International Air Transport Association, an airline industry group, has its smartphone IATA Travel Pass, which airlines including Qantas, Japan Airlines, Emirates, British Airways and Virgin Atlantic have signed up to. A rival effort, CommonPass, has gained traction with carriers like Cathay Pacific, JetBlue, United and Lufthansa.

What travelers want

Business travelers like British public relations executive Richard Fogg welcome vaccine passports. Fogg's firm scaled back plans to attend a major telecom trade show in Barcelona next month, given quarantine rules for people returning to the U.K.

"Those 10 days of quarantine will have negative business implications — there's no way around it," Fogg said, while acknowledging tradeoffs including concerns about data privacy.

Eymeric Segard, CEO of Geneva-based private jet broker Lunajets, noted travelers already hand over passports with personal data on arrival.

What About Fakes?

Phony paper COVID-19 documents sold by fraudsters have been a problem during the pandemic but developers say digital versions have safeguards that make them hard to fake.

IATA says it doesn't verify test results or vaccination status but acts as the conduit for registered labs to securely send those details to travelers whose identity the app can match to the person who took the test or vaccination. The app scans a traveler's face using the phone camera and matches it to passport biometric details, and there are checks to prevent someone else using their identity.

Security and privacy

Vaccination passports are a polarizing topic, with online discussion highlighting unfounded fears that they'll be used to control people, restrict freedom and erode privacy. Developers stress that minimal personal data is kept on phones, and the only thing that gets transmitted are encryption keys allowing information to be exchanged securely.

"If done correctly, this doesn't bring an additional level of privacy risk because you're just putting in a credential status of yes or no," said Kevin Trilli, chief product officer at ID verification company Onfido, which is working on vaccination cards technology.

What about people who don't have smartphones? Or families that don't have a device for each member? IATA and EU officials say they're working on solutions, including paper-based options.

YOUR HOROSCOPE By Georgia Nicols

Stars show the kind of day you'll have
 ★★★★★ DYNAMIC | ★★★★★ POSITIVE | ★★★ AVERAGE | ★★ SO-SO | ★ DIFFICULT

MOON ALERT: There are no restrictions to shopping or important decisions today. The Moon is in Aquarius.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR SUNDAY, MAY 30, 2021: You have lots of energy and wit! You're bursting with life. You are friendly, enthusiastic and have a great sense of humor. You are multitasking, and you multitask. In this new year ahead, you will be more concerned with property, money and even your body, because you want to build structure in your life, both inner and outer.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★★★★ You want to take it easy at home today. However, you also want to help a family member in any way that you can because it's important. And you will. Tonight: Entertain family.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★ Today, instead of trying to convince someone about your ideas, you want to hear what they have to say. This is because you would rather get along. Tonight: You will learn something.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★ Whereas recently you have been ambitious to work for money (and spend it), today you feel differently. You are more content. You might share your wealth with someone in need because you feel sympathetic. Tonight: Be generous.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★ Today your principal goal will be to help others rather than yourself. This will give you a feeling of satisfaction and personal reward. Tonight: Work for the highest good.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★ Today you might take a look at your life and the world around you and see it without judging or condemning. Because of this, you might want to become involved with a spiritual group. Tonight: Enjoy quiet time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★ It will please you to help a friend or a group today. It makes you feel uplifted if you can lend a hand to a charitable organization because you feel you are doing something worthwhile. Tonight: Trust your instincts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★ You will question your ambition today. You will wonder what is truly worth working for. Instead of always working to get ahead, you realize there are more rewarding goals. Tonight: Ponder what really matters.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ You want to stop chasing in all directions for thrills and adventure. You want to use your energy to make a difference, especially to help those who are suffering in foreign countries. Tonight: Explore new ideas.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★ Today, you have no wish to dispute inheritances or how to share something. Instead, you realize that the person who wants the least is the one who is most content. Tonight: Use what resources are available to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ Today, you want to make your peace with those who are closest to you. You see that whatever differences you have are nothing in the bigger scheme of things. Tonight: Strengthen your bond with someone.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★ You're happy with today's energy because you are a person who always wants to make the world a better place. Therefore, you will work efficiently, either individually or with a group, to use your networking skills. Tonight: Establish a plan.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ The plight of children, either close to home or far away, is something that you are aware of today. If you can do fundraising or call attention to this problem, you will. You see that what is done to help one is done to help all. Tonight: You're in touch with your creative energy.

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 PRICES GOOD ONLINE SUNDAY, MAY 30 - SATURDAY, JUNE 5, 2021.
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Includes Little Wishes®

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Floral and greenery
Does not include custom designs

Dried Naturals

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