Gral. Dr. Av. Victor Anastasiu First Memorial Lecture
Presented at INMAS
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The evolution of Medical Standards in ICAO
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INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION ORGANIZATION

AIR NAVIGATION BUREAU

AVIATION MEDICINE SECTION

1947-PRESENT DAY
Background information on archive files

- October 1946 Proposal for a MED meeting.
- Premature/States should be notified when medical matters are being considered.
- January 1947 Approval for the hiring of a medical expert.
- April 1947 Council approves the convening of a PEL meeting and the Medical Expert is appointed.
- October 1948 MED Panel
Medical Officers
Nationalities and Chronology

- Franz De Tavel (Switzerland) 1947-1961
- Lloyd Buley (Australia) & James Alexander (U.K.) 1965-1970
- Arne Frykholm (Sweden) & Silvio Finkelstein (Argentina) 1970-1975
- Silvio Finkelstein & Jean-Paul Chambion (France) 1975-1994
- Claus Curdt-Christiansen (Denmark) 1994-2004 (Dr. Evans on secondment from the U.K. for a short period)
- Anthony Evans 2005-Present
Significant achievements in each period

- Beginnings-Dr. de Tavel (1948-1961)
- Development of the first SARP’s in regulatory documents
- Coordination with WHO on issues related to Public Health and Quarantine
- Recognition by the ICAO Council of the “Aerospace Medical Association”
Significant achievements

- Recognition of the importance of Human Factors related to Operational Safety
- Development of the concept of In-flight Incapacitation
- Preparatory work for the Divisional PEL/TRG/MED Meeting of 1970
- Recognition by the ICAO Council of the International Academy of Aviation & Space Medicine
Significant achievements

- 1970-1975 Drs. Frykholm & Finkelstein
- Implementation of the Recommendations of the 1970 Divisional Meeting
- Beginning of training and updating courses for A.M.E’s
- Annex 1 updating
- First edition of the ICAO Medical Manual in English, French & Spanish
Significant achievements

- Period 1975-1985 Dr. Finkelstein
- Strengthening of the teaching activities
- First international seminars in Thailand, Nigeria and Argentina
- Second edition of the Medical Manual in 4 languages
- Adoption of a Standard making obligatory aviation medical training for A.M.E’s
- Appointment of a French speaking Medical Officer
- Adoption of smoking restrictions in ICAO’s meeting rooms
- Edward Warner Award granted to Dr. Harry Armstrong
Significant achievements

- Period 1985-1990 Drs. Finkelstein & Chambion
- Beginning of global studies on smoking, alcohol and drugs in the context of Operational Safety
- Regional Seminars for Francophone African States
- Standards and guidance updating on duty times and rest periods
- Beginning of global studies on AIDS and aviation. Contact with Dr. Jonathan Mann
- Advising States on AVMED problems, solutions & PREVENTION in three languages
Significant achievements

- Period 1990-1993 Dr. Finkelstein
- Formal coordination with WHO on drugs, alcohol, AIDS and smoking restrictions in international flights
- 8th Conference on Smoking or Health
- Resolution A 29-15 Smoking restrictions
- Coordination with the European Community
- Beginning of studies related to crew and passenger’s health
Significant achievements

- Period 1994-2004 Dr. Curdt-Christiansen.
- Updating of SARPs.
- International Health aspects in close collaboration with WHO.
- Edward Warner Award granted to the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine.
- Prevention of SARS transmission (Dr. Finkelstein is recruited as Team Leader).
Resolution 19/1

Protection of the health of passengers and crews and prevention of the spread of communicable disease through international travel
Resolution 19/1

Declares that the protection of the health of passengers and crews on international flights is an integral element of safe air travel and that conditions should be in place to ensure its preservation in a timely and cost-effective manner;
Requests the ICAO Council to review existing SARPs related to passenger and crew health and develop new SARPs where appropriate with due consideration of global health issues and recent developments in air transport operations;
Resolution 19/1

- Requests the ICAO Council to support further research on the consequences of air transport on the health of passengers and crews;
- Requests the ICAO Council to establish suitable institutional arrangements to coordinate efforts by contracting States and other members of the international civil aviation community aimed at protecting the health of passengers and crews;
PRESENT PERIOD - Dr. Anthony Evans

- Regulatory aspects (Annexes)
- Educational aspects (Seminars, meetings, lectures, manuals and specific guidance)
- Research aspects (cost-benefit considerations)
- Pandemics prevention (Chicago Convention)
- Developing CAPSCA into a Global programme (2011)
PRESENT PERIOD

- ICAO’s MED Section became the leader on International Civil Aviation Medicine!!