

DR LESEGO BOGATSU AIR AMBULANCE REGULATIONS SM:AVIATION MEDICAL MANADER SACAA





Global Standards Working Group





Regulations







Department:

Health

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

LUJO HAEMORAGIC OUTBREAK CASE STUDY AIR AMBULANCE



- Lujo haemorrhagic fever (LUHF)-Lusaka /Johannesburg 2008
- The outbreak began in Zambia when a person became sick after exposure to an infected rodent
- The patient sought care in a South African healthcare facility.
- There, four healthcare workers caring for the patient also became infected.
- Air Ambulance Staff -Four out of the five cases were fatal, this included the a cleaner at the hospital

What is needed for AA transport of HCARRESCUE

Local health authority release at the point of departure.

Appropriate travel documentation and patient consent.

Destination health authority acceptance of the patient.

An appropriate safe means of transport with medical escorts and appropriate infection control/isolation measures in place.

Landing approvals from the country concerned and over flight clearances from any country enroute.

A confirmed receiving facility with adequate contact isolation.

HISTORY OF HEMS IN SA

Provider	Key Dates	Bases/Regions	Aircraft Used	Notes	
Provincial HEMS	1970s–1990s	Major hospitals nationwide	Government-leased helicopters	Forly government led enerations	
PIOVIIICIAI FILIVIS	1977' - 1999	Flight for life (JHB, PTA) Aeromed (Durban)	BO105 / Bell Long Ranger	Early government-led operations	
MRI	1978–2000	JHB, Harrismith, Durban, Cape Town	4 helicopters (Bell long Rangers)	Ceased 2000	
STAR	1999–2005	Gauteng, Tshwane, Polokwane, KZN, WC	Eurocopter EC-135, BO 105 LS	24/7 service, doctor + ALS paramedic	
AMS/RCAMS	2000-present	Oudtshoorn, Durban, Richards Bay, CT, Polokwane	Not specified (daylight ops)	Non-profit, limited night ops in KZN	
Netcare 911	2005-present	Gauteng, KZN, Eastern Cape, WC	EC-135, BO 105 LS, AS 350 B2, Bell 222 UT	24/7 in Gauteng, ICU-level equipment	
ER24	2010 - 2017	JHB, Bloemfontein, Nelspruit, NW, Pietermaritzburg	Not specified (daylight ops)	5 helicopters, advanced medical care	
ROCKET HEMS	2019-present	Independent, multiple bases	Bell 222UT / 230	NVG, high serviceability, ICU-level	

Introduction



The Health Authorities in both referring and receiving countries need to accept the patient as this pose a potential threat to public health.

Patient nationality may be of impact, in that most health authorities will only consider acceptance of their own nationals.

Passenger may not be allowed if it is communicable disease case

Air space restrictions

C130 75 MEDICAL PATIENTS





Air Service and International Air Service Definition



"Air Service" means any service operated by means of an aircraft for reward.

"International Air Service" means and air service which passes through the air space over the territory of the Republic and at least one other country.

CLASS III AIR SERVICE LICENCE

- ➤ Issued by the Air Services Licensing Council at the DoT
- ➤ In terms of the Air Services Licensing Act, Act of 1990, or the International Air Services Act, Act of 1993



TV2/279

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AIR SERVICE LICENSING COUNCIL

AIR SERVICES LICENSING ACT, 1990 (ACT No. 115 OF 1990)

CLASS III AIR SERVICE LICENCE

Issued in terms of section 17(1) of Act No. 115 of 1990

Licence Number: G989D

HELICOPTER AND AIRPLANCE LOGISTITACAL OPERATIONS (PTY) LTD (Name of licensee)

has been authorized by the Air Service Licensing Council to operate the type(s) of air service(s) with the category(ies) of aircraft as specified hereunder:

G2, G3, G7, G10, G15 and G16 (Ship to Shore)

Category(ies) of aircraft:

H1 and H2

Issued subject to the following conditions (section 16(5) and (6)): This licence is valid subject to the following conditions: - (section 19 (b) and (c)): On condition that the licensee commence with its operation within a period of 12 months from the day of issuance of a licence; and that the air service shall not be interrupted for a period exceeding 12 months; and on condition that the licensee is in possession of a valid Operating Certificate which is renewable annually

ssued at PRETORIA on the 12 June 2012

For AIR SERVICE LICENSING COUNCIL

This Licence was issued without any alteration or erasure

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

2012 -06- 1 2

SOUTH AFRICAN





OPERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS ISSUE #: 31 FLYING AMBULANCE (PTY) LTD t/a AEROCARE ISSUED BY THE SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

OPERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS

These Operations Specifications forming part of the Operating Certificate are issued pursuant to Part 135 Subpart 6 of the Civil Aviation Regulations, of 2011, as amended.

ISSUING AUTHORITY CONTACT DETAILS.
Telephone: +27 11 545 1000: Fax: +27 11 545 1465 E-mail: mail@caa.co.za

AOC CERTIFICATE#: FO 14775 FLYING AMBULANCE (PTY) LTD t/a AEROCARE

Approved Air Services and Type of operations as applicable

Air Service	Class	License No	A/C Category	Types of Air Service		
General Air Service	111	G179D	A3 / A4	G7		
Domestic Non-Schedule	11	N178D	A3 /A4	N1		

	G7 – emergency medical service including the				
N1 – -Transport of passengers	provision of				
	casualty equipment and medical personnel				

			Spe	cific Appro	vals (li	mitatio	ons)			
Dangerou	ıs Goods	Not E	ndorsed	Take off RVR	150 m		ETOPS		Not Endorsed	
	Not Endorsed				A	N/A				
			Operational credits	svs		×			See page 3	
RVSM				HUD		×	Landing	Se		
				EVS	×					
				Auto land		×	William Control of the Control			
				cvs		×				
Part 138	ZS-LFW, ZS-MDY, ZS-LRS, ZS-PLJ, ZS-PPZ, ZS-NXH			Navigation Specifications for PBN Operations			N/A			
EFB	Endorse	Continued Airworthiness			AMO #: , Part 135 Subpart 9 King Air Services : 011 482 2197					

OF	PERATIONS SPECIFICATIONS APPRO	OVAL			
And The same of th	SIPHAMANDLA B MHLANGACTING SM: FLIGHT OPERATE	04 NOVEMBER 2020			
SIGNATURE	NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS		EFFECTIVE DATE		
SENIOR MANAGER: FLIGHT OPERATIONS	CAA/FOD/OPSPECS0000008893	9	CAA/FOD/OPSPEC 0000008893		
CA 91-C-05	28 FEBRUARY 2019	Page 1 of			

1	Number	Operator	Contact Details	Base(s)	Heli or Fixed Wing	Licence	Class	Туре	Certificate	Expiry Date	Endorsement	CAR Part
2	1	Aerios Global Aviation	021 934 9127 & 082 453 0090	Cape Town Interbnational Airport	Helicopter	N1056D & G1057D	Ш	G7	AOC	12/31/2024	Part 138	Part 127
3	2	Aerocare	051 433 3197 & 072 332 2007	Bloemfontein Airport	Fixed wing	N179D	Ш	G7	AOC	1¥30¥2024	Part 138	Part 135
4	3	Air Ambulance Health Services	015 433 3197 & 072 332 2007	Bloemfontein Airport	Fixed wing	G1491D	Ш	G 7	AOC	6/30/2024	Part 138	Part 135
5	4	Airwok Africa	012 543 0598 & 082 967 0440	Wonderboom Airport	Helicopter	N1162D & G1163D	Ш	G 7	AOC	3∤31∤2024	New Applicant	Part 127
6	5	BalmOral Central Contracts SA	011 689 1005 and 082 769 7213	Lanseria International Airport, Lanseria	Fixed wing	G663D	Ш	G 7	AOC	¥3¥2025	Part 138	Part 135
7	6	Black Eagle Aviation Services	083 640 2500	Virginia Airport and Grand Central Airport	Helicopter	N1058D	Ш	G 7	AOC	Part 127 - 31/03/2025 Part 135 - 31/08/2024	Part 138	Part 127
8	7	East London Air Services	043 736 1663 & 083 265 0912	East London Airport	Fixed wing	N640D & G736D	Ш	G 7	AOC	3∤31∤2025	Part 138	Part 135
9	8	FIM Aviation	072 271 2555	Polokwane	Helicopter	G1344D	Ш	G7	AOC	2025/02/29	Part 138	Part 127
10	9	Flyfofa Airways	012 566 3019 & 072 678 3536	Wonderboom Airport	Fixed wing	N1173D	Ш	G7	AOC	No date Yet, still in progress	Part 138	Part 135
11	10	Gaurdian Air Asset Management	011 701 3011 & 073 203 5661	Lanseria Airport	Fixed wing	I/G284 & N1182D	Ш	G7	AOC	11/30/2024	Part 138	Part 135
	11	HALO Aviation	086 111 6107 & 072 613 4616	Lanseria International Airport, Lanseria	Helicopter & Fixed	G989D	III	G 7	AOC	Part 127 -	Part 138	Part 127

Air Ambulance Course - Civilian & Military





Mostly Mended by Paramedics (ILS/ALS) Medical Practitions
/Professional Nurses

- 1) Specialists Depending on a case-Neonate on board
 - 2) Proof of liability for Insurance
- 3) Each Operator has a 2 days Course–Operations



Part 127 Aircrafts & Endorsement by the Medical Department Total 7

HELICOPTER AIR AMBULANCE

- Limited range slower speed
- Scene to hospital
- High cost / km
- Unpressurised
- Quick mobilization time (<8 minutes



FACTORS INFLUENCING HEMS



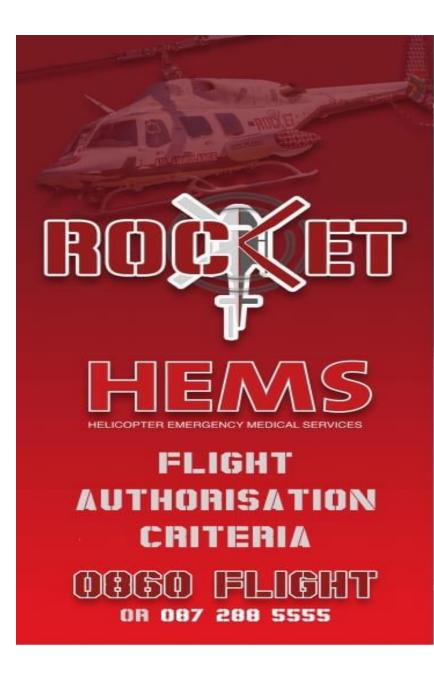
- Cost(±r30 000-50 000/hr)
- Distance(fuel limitations)
- Weather(Visual Flight Rules
- Logistics fuel(strategic planning for fuel)
- Weather(preflight and ongoing planning)
- Duty hours(fdp)lz (unprepared vs prepared/ hazards)

SCENE PREPARATION HEMS



 FOR A SAFE LZ REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING. FOUR W'S AND FOUR S'S:

- FOUR W'S :WIND, WIRES, WAY IN WAY OUT.
- FOUR S'S :SIZE, SHAPE, SLOPE, SURFACE.



MEDICAL CALL-OUT CRITERIA

HEAD INJURIES with an initial GCS of between 5 and 12 out of 15, or with focal neurological deficit

STROKE PATIENTS where time to a stroke centre can be significantly reduced by air transport

HYPOTENSIVE PATIENTS with a systolic blood pressure of less than 80mmHg despite attempted haemorrhage control, fluid resuscitation and or inotropic support

RESPIRATORY DISTRESS despite oxygenation, where advanced airway management or mechanical ventilatory support is deemed necessary

SUSPECTED MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION OR UNSTABLE ARRYTHMIA where time to definitive care can be significantly reduced by air transport

NEAR DROWNING with haemodynamic compromise despite resuscitation attempts

OBSTETRIC / NEONATAL EMERGENCIES where specialist care is not immediately available

SUSPECTED SPINAL INJURY with or without neurological deficit, where transfer times by road are extended or terrain may prove detrimental to patient outcomes

THREATENED LIMBS with significant vascular compromise

PENETRATING TRAUMA to the head, neck, thorax and/or abdomen involving underlying organs or vascular structures

BURNS in adults with a BSA of 20-80% or in children with a BSA of 10% or more, or burns to the face, neck and chest with potential airway compromise

REFRACTORY ANAPHYLAXIS

ELECTROCUTION with unstable arrythmia or neurological deficit

HYPOTHERMIA < 35°C or HYPERTHERMIA > 40°C patients requiring advanced interventions and/or management, not immediately available

LIFE THREATENING MEDICAL CONDITIONS that require advanced interventions and/or management that is not immediately available

ANY SIGNIFICANT MEDICAL CONDITION where the expertise of medical flight crew is likely to benefit patient outcomes

SHOULD YOU, AT ANYTIME, BE UNSURE WHETHER OR NOT A PATIENT WILL BENEFIT FROM A MEDICAL FLIGHT PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO ESCALATE THE MATTER TO OUR DISPATCH CENTRE, WHERE WE WILL BE HAPPY TO ASSIST

TRANSPORT FLIGHT CRITERIA HEMISESCUE

- Primary Response
- To incident scene
- HEMS
- Interfacility Transfer (IFT)Hospital to hospital
- HEMS or FW depending on distance

CALL OUT / ACTIVATION CRITERIA

AIR RESCUE

- flight criteria
- Specific skills required
- Taking specialist skills to the patient(surgeon_
- taking the patient to specialists kills(surgical
- rescue/ accessibility issues
- lack of skills/
- Consider Hearing Protection in Helicopter
- DEPLETIONOFAREARESOURCES

FLIGHT CREW TRAINING SAFETY ISSUES HOT LOADING



TRAINING BASED ON THE OPERATION –AIR CREW & MEDICAL CREW







I. Have a valid **CPL with night rating** appropriate to the category and type of air ambulance aircraft and the mission to be flown.

- I. Received **training** (including thorough knowledge of the terrain)
- II. Demonstrated minimum competency for the relevant mission to be flown, as prescribed in the manual of procedure

PILOTS QUALIFICATIONS







MEDICAL PERSONNEL

- Medical personnel and medical service providers involved in air ambulance operations shall comply with the relevant legislation and regulations administered by;
- I. National Department of Health
- II. Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) or
- **III.** South African Nursing Council











Part 91 Aircrafts
Endorsement by the Medical
Department
5 Helicopter & Fixed wing

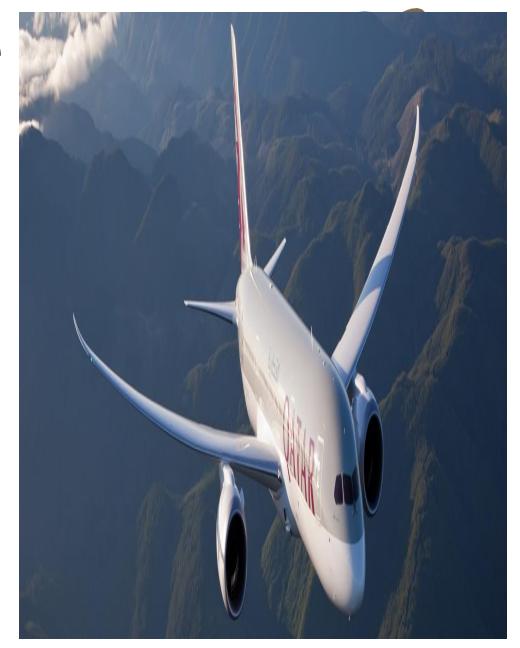






Fixed Wing Air Ambulance

- Total 8
- Extended range and higher speed
- Airport to Airport
- Lower cost / km
- Pressurized (usually)
- Longer mobilization time (>1h usually
- Part 121 Medical Department Endorsement



INFECTION CONTROL ISSUES

- a. Control and Management of Communicable Diseases
- b. Infection Control
- c. Disposal of Hazardous Waste
- d. Management and Control of Pharmaceutical Substances
- e. Maintainance





Planning Transport with Communicable Disease



- Risk to medical and flight crew
- Careful logistical planning is required.
- Longer activation times needed.
- Impact of Altitude Stressors on a patient

What is needed for AA transport of HCARRESCUE

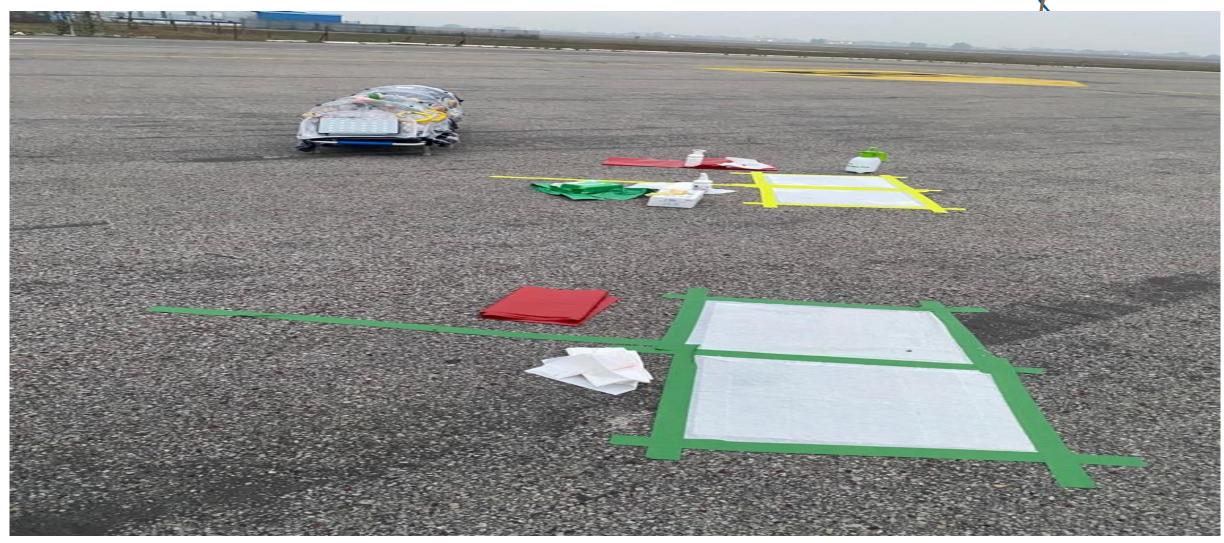
- Case must be accepted by the Air Ambulance Director
- Clinical Status of the passenger is considered-benefit from the trip or not
- Cost associated with the transfer a higher(Soak,PPE,additional crew)
- Fight and ground crew trained on the manage case & mend the isolation unit
- Trained in PPE

Performing the mission Covid-19 AIRRESCUE



LESSONS FROM COVID 19 TRAINING





Performing the mission





Portable Medical Isolation Units

- Origins Air Transport Isolator, RAF
- SARS 2003
- 2015 numerous PMIU's available
- Need bigger than a PMIU? ABCS / TIS but more about that later...





Portable Medical Isolation Units

















Preparation



ANNEXURE A: PREPARATION OF ISOLATION UNIT IN STOREROOM PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

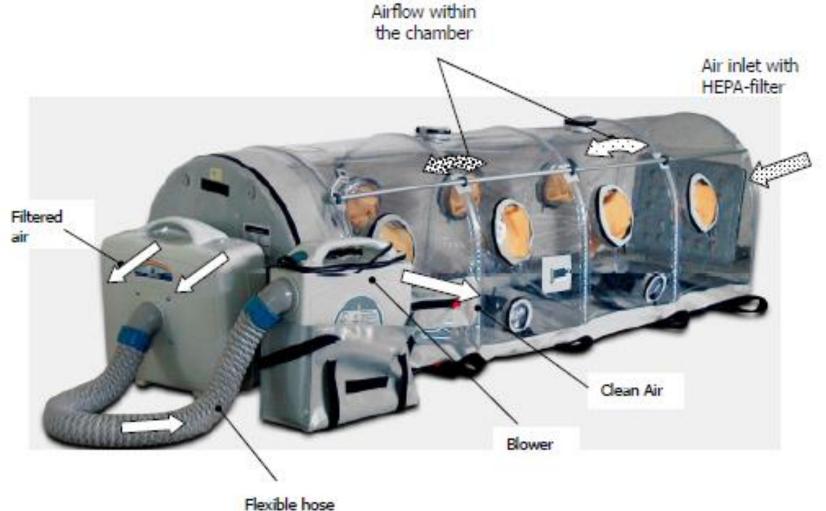
PREPARATION OF ISOLATION UNIT IN STOREROOM PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

		Confirm
BLUE BAG CONTENTS	QTY	taken
PMIU stretcher		
Disposable Flat sheets	2	
Pillow with plastic cover	1	
Pillow case	2	
Disposable blanket	1	
Cover pillow with 2 disposable pillow cases		
Secure PMIU to ZIP stretcher		
Connect PVC gloves to portholes, secure connection points with insola	ation tape	
Place buckles and straps from the PMIU in a zip seal bags and secure	them	
with elastic bands		
Patient Monitoring		
Mobile SpO2 probe	1	
Disposable SpO2 probe	1	
SpO2 cable	1	
Zoll monitor blood pressure cable	1	
	1	
Blood pressure cuffs (Adult, Adult Long and Large Adult)	each	
Multifunction pads	2	
Re-breather mask	1	
Extra oxygen tubing - connect to oxygen flow meter and test that its		
working	2	
Thermometer for Zoll Prepare SpO2, BP and Multifunction pad cables, feed through porthology	1	
secure	es and	
Connect extra oxygen tubing to oxygen mask, feed through portholes	and	
secure		
Patient Procedures		
Crystalloid pack (for IV insertion)	1	
3-way stop cock with extension	2	
Syringe driver connection tube (for line extension)	4	
Infusion pump lines	4	
Hep/saline flush for IV lines	2	
Infusion packs	2	
Balsol 1000mls	2	
Normal Saline 200mls	4	
Dextrose 50% 50mls	2	
Tourniquet	1	
Needles and syringes pack	1	
ABG set	1 1	
ADG 561		

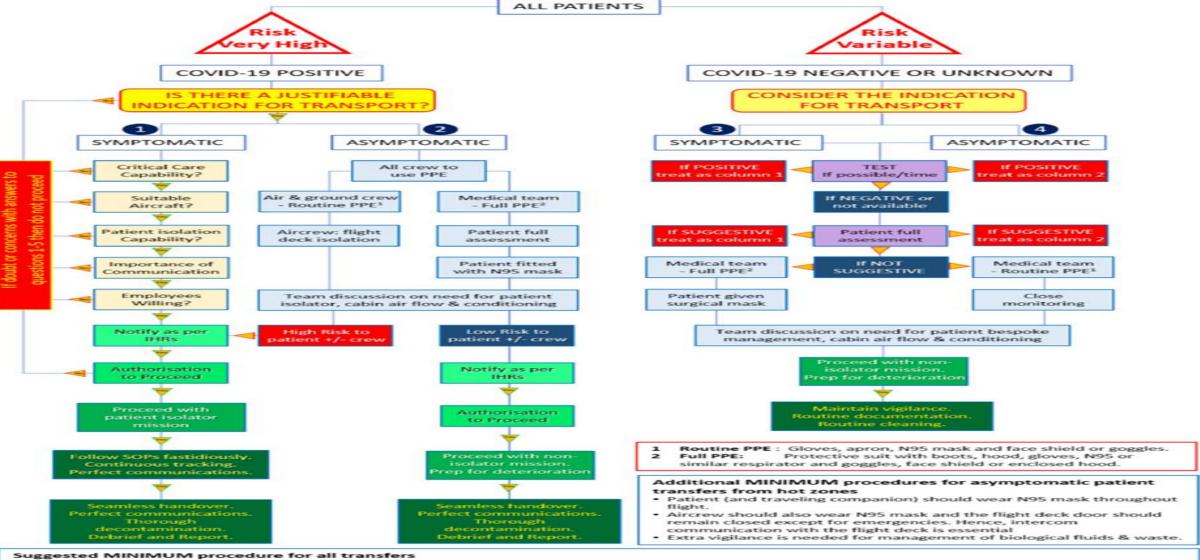
arps container	1	
theter pack	1	
spare infusion lines with extensions, prime line		
epare hep/saline flush, flush through 3 way stop-cocks		
r the Patient		
rge alchol wipes	20	
e jon	3	
:k Jon	3	
per towels (for secretion control for the patient)	5	
rgical mask for the patient	5	
d bags	5	
lock bags (for patients passport)	5	
astic bands - to close Wee Jon if used	5	
ack pack for the patient	prn	
ergades and water	pm	
bles		
ttle cords	3	
ygen regulator	1	
in plug	1	
uipment		
Il monitor	2	
usion pumps	2	
ringe driver	2	
ygen	prn	
ug "go bag"	pm	
her		
ng wrap - seal all isolation unit ports	1	
iolation tape	3	
ct tape	3	
astic bands	20	
usion pump bracket	1	
usion pump IV arm	1	
ad lamps	2	
ve you sealed off all the ports / openings		
ace all extra bags in clear plastic bags		
plation unit contents		
amber	1	
rticle filter	1	
PA filter - ensure plastic cover is removed	1	
se	1	
ower	1	
nnect all parts to ensure unit is working	·	

Portable Medical Isolation Units

IsoArk N 36-4: Portable negative pressure isolation chamber





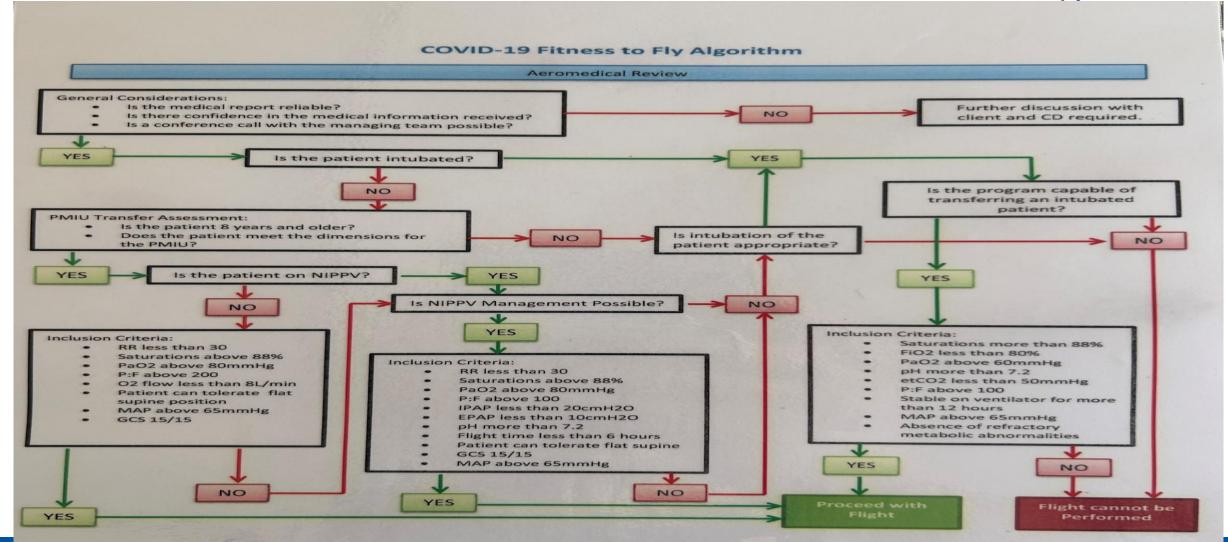


- Medical team to wear 'routine' PPE (gloves, apron, N95 mask and face shield or goggles) throughout the entire patient contact time.
- On Pre-Flight Assessment: Check temperature, take recent medical history; check chronic health/other risk factors history. Ask specifically for respiratory tract and flu-like symptoms.
- Examine the chest. Check for dehydration and measure BP and oxygen saturation (stating FiO2). Look at the oropharynx.
- Review chest Xrays if available.
- Review recent blood results (especially for markers of infection).
- Review recent vital observations chart.
- Complete the remaining pre-flight assessment indicated for patient.
- If Covid-19 status unknown and time allows, test for Covid-19.
- Flight medical team to wear routine PPE for entire flight if the patient has no significant findings or history of Covid-19 infection.
- If the patient raises a high index of suspicion, he/she should be treated as a highly contagious patient.
 All patients to have routine TPR observations recorded once onboard the aircraft and hourly thereafter.
- Deterioration enroute should be documented and treated symptomatically. If indicated, the patient to wear N95 mask.



Lessons from Covid 19





Lessons Learned ISOS Covid-19



58 International Medivacs

• 41 in the Isolation Unit

15 cases were ventilated

LOADING OF A PATIENT





Clinical considerations



- Fitness to transport in isolation unit.
- Limited interventions possible after patient in isolation unit.
- Limited access to patient during transport.
- Minimize high risk procedures.
- All ports for lines and leads sealed appropriately to minimize contamination risk.
- Patient comfort a challenge.

Operational & Logistic Considerations

- Countries with infectious cases involving their own citizens are generally more likely to favourably consider such requests.
- Willingness to accept patients of other nationalities is limited.
- Requirements from Authorities may not necessarily reflect scientific/medical fact there are other issues to consider.

ess 101: Zombie Apocalypse

11:48 am ET - Ali S. Khan



nds of emergencies out there that we can prepare for. Take a s right, I said z-o-m-b-i-e a-p-o-c-a-l-y-p-s-e. You may laugl be happy you read this, and hey, maybe you'll even learn a t s real emergency.

After the case Monitoring of Crew



The duration and method of surveillance will be determined by the Medical director and be based on:

- The Mode of transmission.
- The Level or exposure risk.
- The maximum duration of the Incubation Period.
- Symptoms of the disease.
- Vaccination status of the crew member, if applicable.
- Prophylaxis available, if applicable.
- Health Authority instructions or guidance.

COVID 19 Accident Netcare Accident 2021 5 Fatalities







Stretcher Approved by Airworthiness

-Adequate Entry to the door

-Restrained -approved by manufactured -Compartment must be aligned by material non porous material -minize contamination

BUCHER

MBB-BK117 FLIGHT MANUAL SUPPLEMENT FMS 36/2

FOR

BUCHER AMBULANCE AND RESCUE SYSTEM (ARA)

ARA - BK117 - AC41 / STANDARD

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR CIVIL AVIATION APPROVED

EFFECTIVITY: AIRCRAFT SERIAL NO.

7250

AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION NO.

RELEASED BY:

Federal Office for Civil Aviation
Section for Type Certification

DATE:

10-11-1

This Flight Manual Supplement must be attached to the MBB-BK117 basic Rotorcraft Flight Manual when the aircraft is operated with the Ambulance and Rescue System installed

The equipment and installation has been certified for use in the MBB-BK117 by means of Supplemental Type Certificate Ref.No. Z25-20-59

The information contained herein supplements or supercedes the information contained in the basic Rotorcraft Flight Manual. For limitations, procedures and performance data not contained in this supplement refer to the basic Rotorcraft Flight Manual.

Page 1 Rev. A 04.11.99 FOCA approved



MODIFICATION APPROVAL CERTIFICATE

In terms of the SOUTH AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION REGULATIONS, 2011, AS AMENDED

Approval Number: M/20/048/S

This Modification Approval is issued by SACAA, acting in accordance with South African Civil Aviation Regulation Part 43.02.15: Modifications.

Name of Modification Holder	MPT Maintenance (Pty) Ltd		
Physical Address of Holder	Hangar 114, Gate 13, Lanseria International Airport, 1748		
Postal Address of Holder	P.O. Box 45, Lanseria, 1748		

and certifies that the change in the type design for the product listed below with the limitations and conditions specified meets the applicable Type Certification Basis and environmental protection requirements when operated within the conditions and limitations specified below:

Product Make and Model	Beechcraft Corporation, 200		
Registration Number of Aircraft	ZS-BHK	Project Number	AO004435
Product Serial Number	BB-387	Affected TCDS No.	A24CE

Description of Type Design Change:

Installation of Aero Medical Products Mfg., Inc. Air Ambulance Stretcher (P/N 125) using Installation Kit (P/N 805) in accordance with Installation and Operating Instructions, Form EA109K and per STC SA1129GL.

Certification Basis:

The Certification Basis for the original product remains applicable to this certificate/approval. The requirements for environmental protection and the associated certificated noise and/or emissions levels of the original product are unchanged and remain applicable to this certificate/approval.

This Certificate and the supporting data, which is the basis for approval, shall remain in effect until surrendered, suspended, revoked, or a termination date is otherwise established by the Director of Civil Aviation.

2020 -02- 1 9 DATE OF ISSUE THANDI MOFOKENG

Manufacturing / Production Inspector

Civil Aviation Authority

NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS FOR DIVIL AVIATION

For: DIRECTOR OF CIVIL

AVIATION

Page 1 of 1

CA 43-C-09 02 DECEMBER 2016

W NO: 01728

FMS 36/2

INSTRUMENTS AND EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATION FOR AVIATION & MAINTANANCE



Lighting inside the aircraft
Separation between Flight Crew &
Medical Crew
Appropriate & Adequate
Hooks/Hanging Devises for dripsmust not cause injuries





WEIGHT & MASS BALANCE OXYGEN & DANGEROUS GOODS CONSIDERATION

/Hydrostatic
Inspection –
Department of
Labour
Oxygen
must be secured

Must not obstruct entry/emergency exits

Outlet marked in line with SANS









Management of Waste Material



Storage of medication must in line with local laws

MAINTANANCE EQUIPMENT DOES NOT INTERFERE WITH AVIAONICS



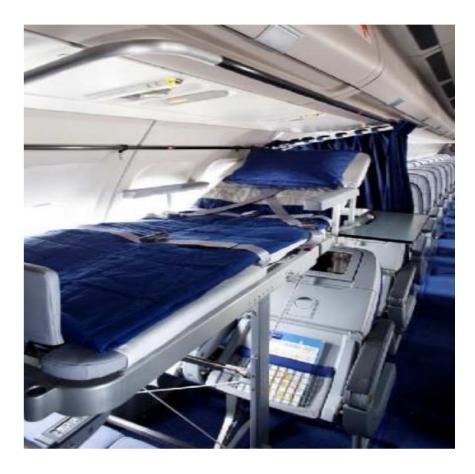
ETT CUFF PRESSURE –ON THE GROUND





AEROMEDICAL TRANSPORT OPTIONS: COMMERCIAL AIRLINE TRANSPORT Part 91







COMMERCIAL AIRLINE / CHARTER TRANSPORT

- Generally, for Minor medical conditions / repatriation
- Medical escort
- Minimal equipment
- By agreement with Airline / Operator

AEROMEDICAL TRANSPORT OPTIONS: COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT LUFTH ANSAR RESCUE ICU POD=DURING COVID WERE REQUESTED TO



Operational & Logistic Considerations

- Authorisation of Health & Aviation Authorities is required
- Acceptance by authorities and adequate receiving facility can be difficult (or impossible) to achieve.
- Availability of isolation equipment/appropriate infection control and trained medical team is required – a limited resource.
 - Part 138 (SA-CAA) operator with capability
- Landing approvals from the country concerned and over flightening to secure.



HALFWAY THROUGH ASCENT (3770FT)









RESET AT CRUISING ALTITUDE (6470FT)













BENEFITS AIR AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

- Time to destination Time critical intervention eg Cath lab
- Mode of transport Terrain
- Unstable spinal injuries
- Special skills/equipment enroute Mobile ICU high spec ventilator, ABG
- ECMO
- Distance Especially applicable to International





LIMITATIONS AIR AMBULANCE TRANSPORT

- Expensive & Weather dependent
- Limited patient access in flight dependent on aircraft
- Altitude effects on certain conditions Eg Bowel obstruction
- Long mobilization time for Fixed Wing (especially international flight)
- Stressors of flight affect patient and crew (vibration, turbulence, roto flicker, fuel smell, G force, hypoxia)
- Limited Service Providers





Management

- Quality Assurance
- Manual of Procedure
- Training Records











DISINFECTION OF THE AIRCRAFT PROCEDURE -Equipment/Aircraft





AIR AMBULANCE TRANSPORTFLIGHT CRITERIA - IFT AIR RESCUE

- Time to life saving invasive intervention will be significantly shortened and as a direct result clinically meaningful.
- Patients with "highly critical" diagnoses (example acute epidural hematoma, life threatening intraabdominal bleed where surgical capabilities exist at the current facility) may not be suitable candidates for inter-facility transfer.
- Delay in intervention—even if to facilitate a higher level of care—may come at the expense of clinical outcome.
- Neonates: Most neonates requiring intensive care will do well with ground EMS transfer.
- HEMS should only be considered for those neonates with time sensitive conditions or transfer from remote, rural facilities where clinical expertise is required for transfer.

AIR AMBULANCE TRANSPORTFLIGHT CRITERIA - IFT



- Cardiac arrest (medical or trauma)/ patient receiving CPR or peri-arrest & Distance and time to appropriate hospital should exceed 20km or 30 min.
- Adverse weather/ environmental conditions (at base, referring facility, enroute or receiving facility)
- Patient weight and size should be considered prior to take off.
- Accompanying equipment for patient care falls outside of the usual clinical or technical abilities of the HEMS.

AIR AMBULANCE TRANSPORTFLIGHT CRITERIA - IFT



- Long distance primary response where transport by road to a hospital for stabilisation is less than the flight time to scene.
- Search and rescue / terrain inaccessible & Mechanism of injury does not imply clinical condition severity.
- Patient too unstable for transport duration (e.g. severe hypotension, hypoxia despite interventions), HACOR score ≥8 or futile regarding prognosis.
- Active labour.

AIR AMBULANCE TRANSPORTFLIGHT CRITERIA - EXCLUSIONS



- Severe electrolyte imbalance.
- Large undrained pneumothorax or air in hollow organs or cranium at risk of expansion and adverse effects due to this tension (this is subject to change in altitude (not just in flight but also referral vs receiving site)) and may be considered if drainage can be established and/or altitude change minimal or mitigated.
- Patient or relative (if patient cannot consent) opposed to transfer.

Conclusion



- Planning is key
- Lots of stakeholders involved
- Dynamic approach needed
- Integrated with public health systems



