

CAPSCA-AP/15

The characteristics of Air Ambulance Operations

The air ambulance community



- A broad and diverse community

Critical care
transportation

EMS

SAR

MEDEVAC

Infectious disease
transportation

Repatriation flights

The air ambulance community

- Two communities working together

medical community



aeronautical community

The characteristics of Air Ambulance Operations



- A common consideration for defining an air ambulance flight

A dedicated aircraft (flight) operated for the sole purpose of transporting a passenger(s) needing medical attention.

Disabled passengers, and passengers under medical supervision transported on board of scheduled flights are excluded from this discussion.

- Air Ambulance Operations:
 - encompass domestic and international operations
 - encompass fixed and rotary wing aircraft
 - employ a wide range of aircraft generations

- Air ambulance operations are not globally harmonized
 - Status of passenger(s) requiring care
 - Standards / certification for the installation of on-board medical equipment
 - Status of medical on-board personnel
 - Mixed platform use (temporary medical platform equipped aircraft vs purpose built and equipped aircraft)
 - Aeronautical qualification of on-board medical personnel
 - Crew training for flight crew members engage in air ambulance operations
 - Certifications of operators

- The air ambulance community identified a need to assess and review air ambulance operations by applying a proactive risk management approach to:
 - Ensure/improve the safety of the passenger under medical care
 - Ensure/improve the safety, security and continuity of air ambulance flights
 - Provide the basis for mutual recognition of air ambulance operations
 - To increase the resilience of air ambulance operations and make it future proof.
- The stakeholders of the air ambulance community are getting organized to develop a multi-disciplinary program to develop a comprehensive air ambulance operations framework, based on the risk management principles.

Thank you



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