

# Are You Prepared for an In-Flight Medical Emergency?

**Tuesday, October 10, 2017 | 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

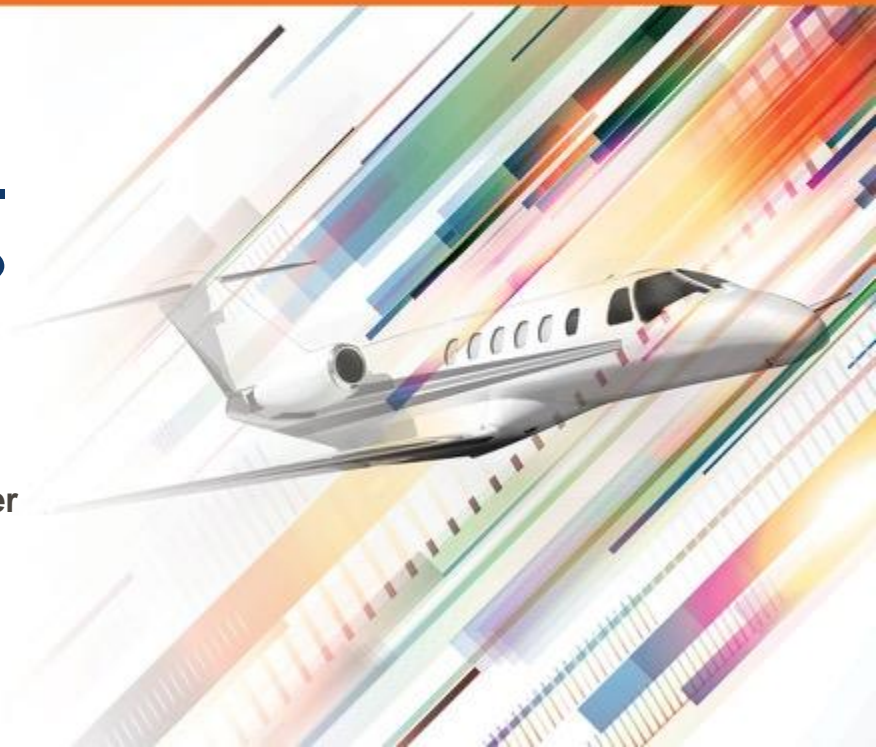
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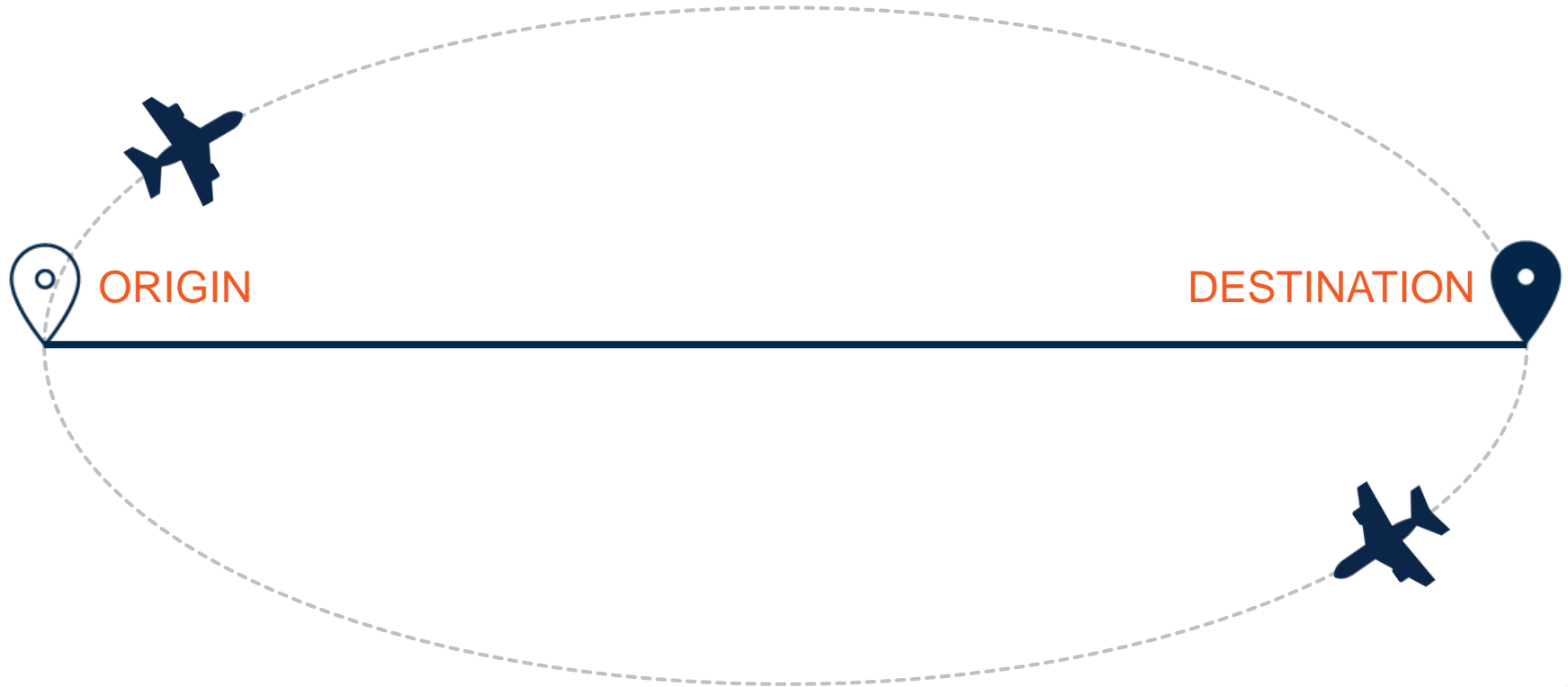
# Medical Emergencies Happen Everyday

On average 29,000 in-flight medical events happen each year



- Beyond the possibility of in-flight emergencies, medical incidents happen while at the destination that can impact your return.
- Security incidents and natural disasters can also impact your mission, from overextended infrastructures in affected areas to threats to personal safety.
- Planning for many possible outcomes prepares you for the unexpected
  - Know the health history of your passengers/crew
  - Anticipate possible diversion points and research airports
    - Emergency response services
    - Nearby medical resources
    - Security threats (en route and on-the-ground)

# YOUR LIFE IS A CYCLE



# 3 POINTS OF MEDICAL INTERVENTION

EN ROUTE

ORIGIN

DESTINATION

PRE FLIGHT

AT DESTINATION



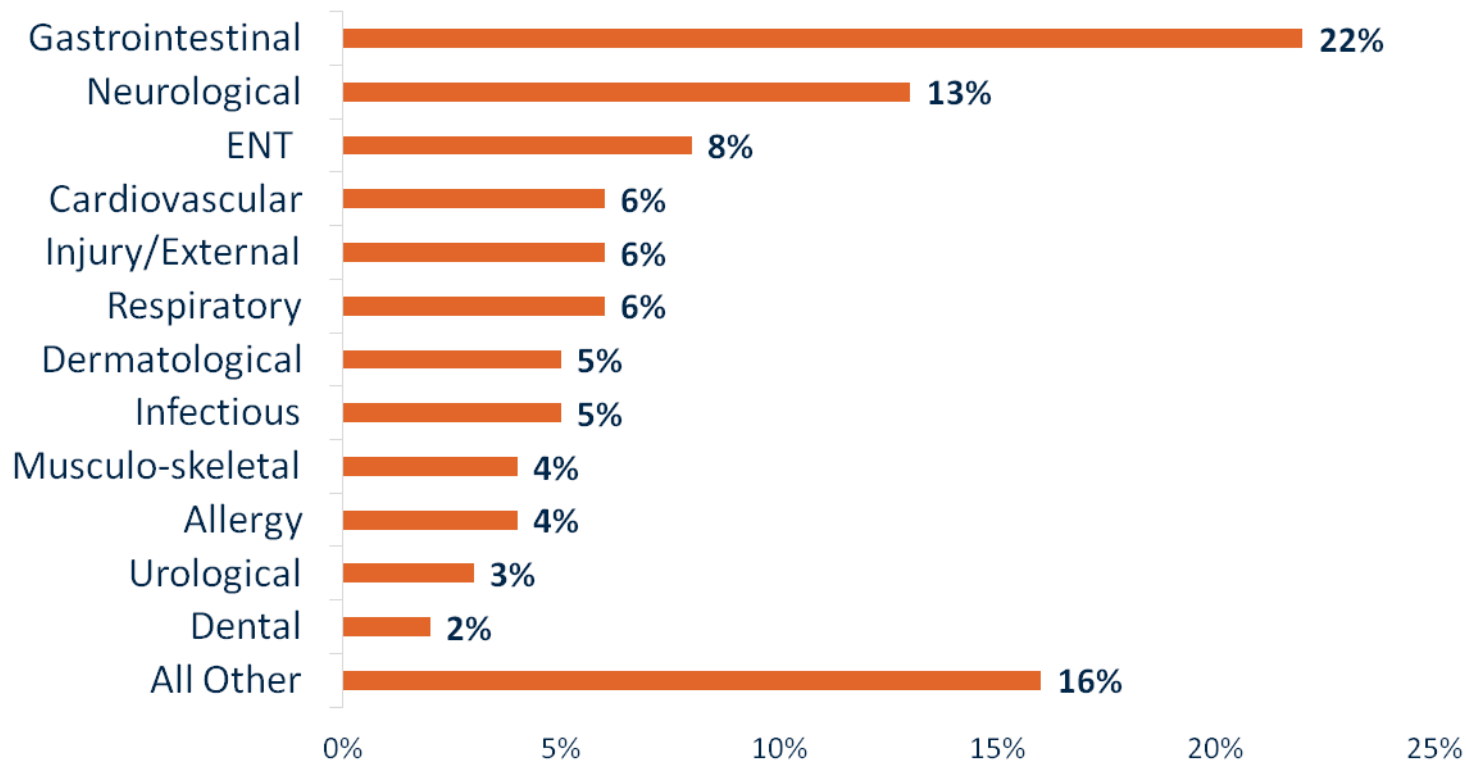
## Question:

Have you ever had a medical issue for crew or passengers either **In-flight** or **On-the-Ground** (at destination)?

Answer:

- a) Yes, In-flight
- b) Yes, On-the-ground
- c) Yes, both In-flight and On-the-ground
- d) No, not yet

# BUSINESS AVIATION IN-FLIGHT MEDICAL EVENTS



# BUSINESS AVIATION IN-FLIGHT MEDICAL EVENTS

WHEN DO THEY OCCUR



**Within the first 25% of  
flight time**



**less than 2500 miles from  
origin**



**33% of calls are from  
domestic flights**



## Question:

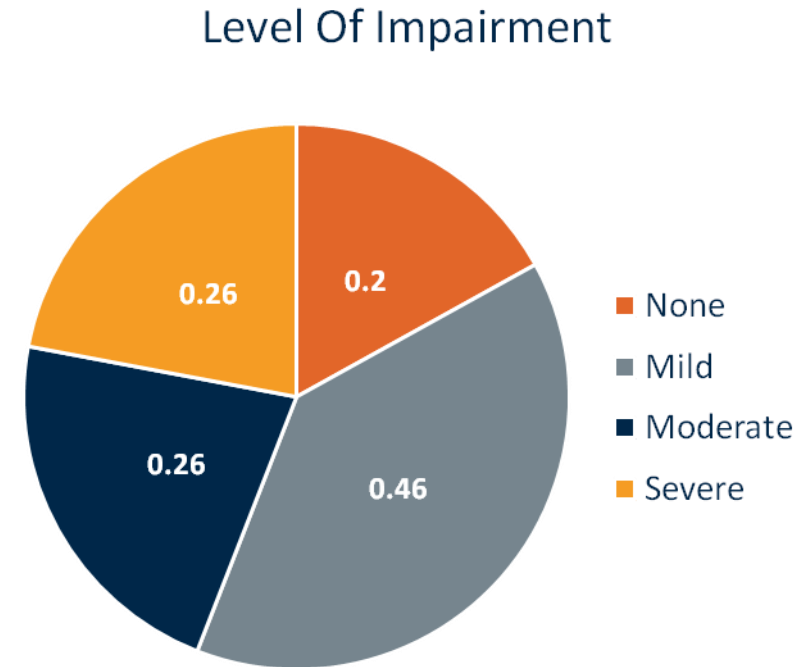
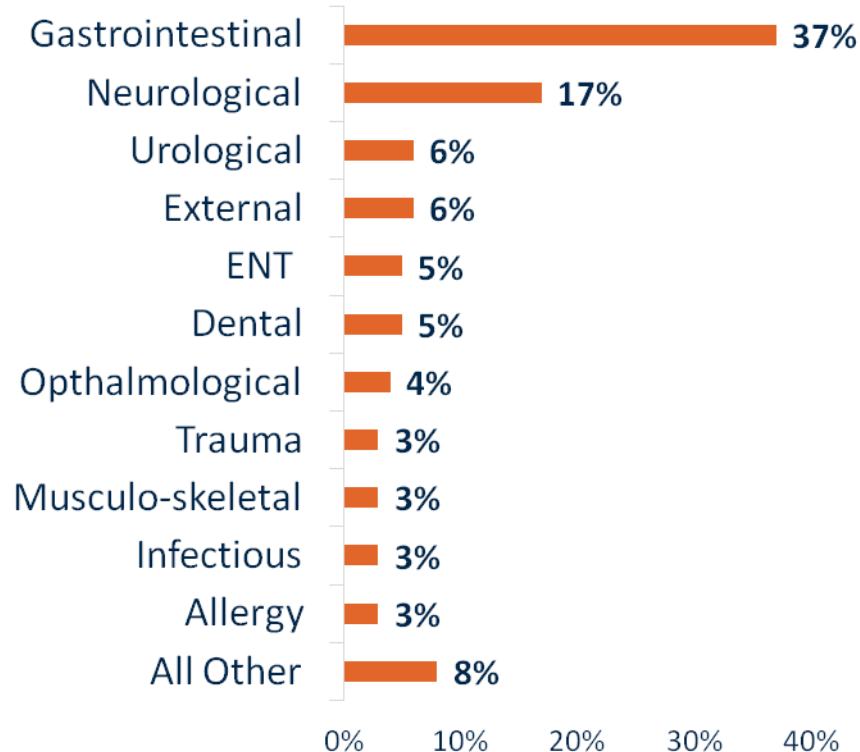
Gastrointestinal complaints are one of the major concerns flight crew members experience in-flight.

Answer:

- a) True
- b) False



# FLIGHT CREW IN-FLIGHT MEDICAL EVENTS



# When a medical event impacts your mission

Pilot death at destination on international mission

- Greg Kulis, Pilot | LBrands

# GLOBAL TRAVEL RISKS



VARIABLE RISK

LOW RISK

MEDIUM RISK

HIGH RISK

VERY HIGH RISK

EXPERT CARE, **EVERYWHERE.**

**MedAire.**  
An International SOS Company

## Question:

**Drowning** causes more deaths to U.S. travelers than **Vehicle Accidents** when out of the country?

- a) True
- b) False

# CAUSES OF DEATH WHILE TRAVELING



Cause of Death	
Vehicle Accident	3410
Homicide	2187
Suicide	1668
Drowning	1515
Other Accident	1470
Terrorist Action	358
Air Accident	349
Drug-Related	299
Disaster	166
Maritime Accident	127
Natural Disaster	38
Hostage Related	20



# Unscheduled Landings

Not only a logistical nightmare



- Medical events are not the only cause of diversion (i.e. Technical problems, weather issues, etc.)
- Before diverting, do you know:
  - Emergency Services support at diversion point?
  - Security concerns in the region near the airport, on the ground vs. overflight?
  - Entry and departure policies of the destination country?



# Diverting to a high-risk destination

The closest option isn't always the safest

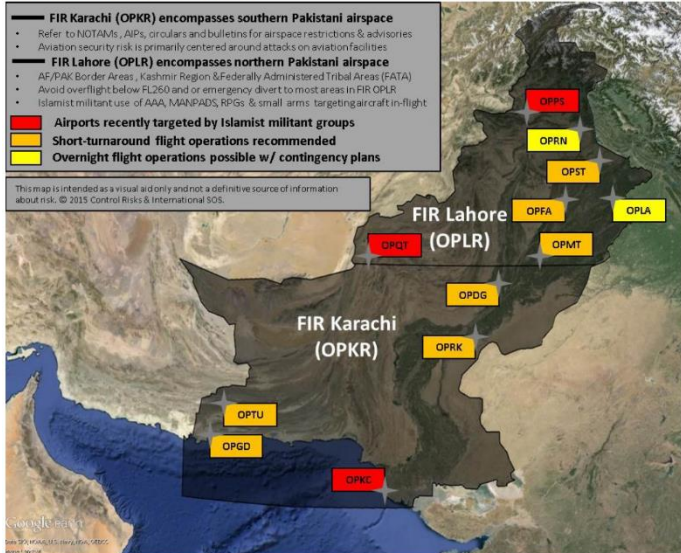


- When your passenger is ill, finding a medical facility or medical assistance is paramount
- What if the nearest facility is in a dangerous region? What about the best facility?
  - Does your flight plan include security information at possible diversion points?
  - Does your diversion plan monitor the differences in threats based on altitude?

## Flying in high-risk air space

# The most direct route isn't always the safest route

## AIRSPACE RISK MAP — PAKISTAN



- What if the best facility requires flying or changing altitude over a dangerous region?
  - Does your diversion plan monitor the differences in threats based on altitude?
  - Can you provide a safe route around your threats while still providing emergent care for ill passengers and safe arrival of other passengers and crew?



# Flying in high-risk air space

## Venezuela



04 November 2014: Venezuelan Air Force  
Shoots Down Trespassing Plane

- 2013 - 'Law on Control for Comprehensive Aerospace Defense (LCCAD)' enacted to address 'control and integral protection of airspace', Since 2014, at least 13 civilian aircraft have been downed under the LCCAD.
- This underlines the need to obtain proper flight clearances prior to take-off and adhere to flight plans on routine operations.

# Diverting while flying domestically

Familiarity with a region does not equal an understanding of the security environment



- What happens if a security incident impacts your destination?
  - Major Incidents can cause mass transit diversions, putting strain on smaller airports and local infrastructures

# What to expect from ground based support

Whether Medical and/or Security assistance, what should you expect from a provider



- Review your checklist
- Ask the tough questions
- Don't hesitate to ask for an action plan to a complicated scenario
- Don't let the first time you contact your ground-based support happen during an emergency

## Question:

Before a trip, the following actions could help to reduce medical & security risk management:

- 1) Research destination
- 2) Plan for emergencies before a trip
- 3) Train/practice for emergency situations
- 4) Understand available resources
- 5) All of the above

## In conclusion

You can avoid diversion and interruptions to your missions

- Prepare for all possible outcomes – research and plan
- Train regularly to ensure you can respond – practice drills
- Rely on the support of ground-based assistance and other resources to help when the incident goes beyond your capabilities.

# Questions?

- Prepare for all possible outcomes

- Train regularly to ensure you can respond

- Rely on the support of ground-based assistance to help when the incident goes beyond your capabilities.



