

The Necessity of Establishing Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (Hems) in Bosnia And Herzegovina

Alem Kaplan

Ministry of Defense of B&H
Bosnia and Herzegovina
alem.kaplan@js.mod.gov.ba

Haris Varupa

Ministry of Defense of B&H
Bosnia and Herzegovina
nadrealisti1@yahoo.com

Abstract: *Once someone is seriously injured in incident site or need emergency transportation from one to another adequate medical facility for further treatment often the hope of those persons is a Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS). In medicine term “golden hour” is always a question of life or death. Every saved minute for ill/injured patient within “golden hour” is often crucial for saving patients live and increases his/her chance to survive and to reduce other effects to minimum. This has importance when we consider the relief of Bosnia and Herzegovina (B&H) whose land is very hilly with an average altitude of 500 m which slows down the quick response, and also due to high number of deaths in road accidents during last year’s, necessity for transportation organs, blood, etc. The doctor and paramedic (medical technician) as crew members of aerial asset can quickly work to stabilize condition of injured person from inaccessible areas, landmines areas, or any incident/accident site. Because of mentioned reasons it’s necessary to conduct research that will show need for development of HEMS (Helicopter Emergency Medical Service) that play a significant part in modern Emergency Medical Systems (EMS) in many countries.*

Thus, the primary objective of an article is to examine the current status and organization of the HEMS in B&H, evaluate the progress in the organization of HEMS over the last years, and make literature review and comparison to some other EU countries regarding HEMS missions. This comparison will show big differences in HEMS available assets and difference in completed missions in EU countries in comparison to B&H. Finally, as an expected result many patients throughout world owe their life to the availability of rapid and effective medical services that is crucial in most emergency situations and that’s reason why is necessary to develop more efficient and effective HEMS in B&H.

Keywords: *Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS), golden hour, emergency management, ill/injured patients.*

