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## **AEROMEDICAL EVACUATION IN 2011 THAI FLOODS**

*ÉVACUATION SANITAIRE EN 2011 INONDATIONS THAÏLANDAISES:*

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Introduction: In October 2011, Thailand experienced a major disaster, due to several storms from July to October, resulting in major floods. The flooding affected many provinces in the lower northern and central regions of Thailand, causing great suffering. There was an urgent need to move hospital patients and their equipment to hospitals in a safe area.

Background: There were a total 82 air transport flights with estimated 150 cases.

I. The air transport operation was divided into 3 phases: A. Pre-Flight Management, B. In-Flight Management, and C. Post-Flight Management.

A. Preflight: 1) Ranking of urgency with the medical unit of origin; 2) Study the necessary patient information; c) Provide medical equipment for air transport; d) Planned emergency responses that may occur during flight; e) Arrange staff to fit the patient; f) Prepare knowledge and healthy body, g) Study the type of aircraft required for the mission.

B. In-Flight: a) Nursing care for patients; b) Follow up signs of change and monitor patient in flight; c) Caring for medical equipment in flight; d) Note patient symptoms and signs.

C. Post-Flight: a) Analyze problems that occurred during flight.

II. Type of aircraft used: Fixed wing aircraft - C-130H, CN-235, CASA212; Rotary wing aircraft - Bell412, Bell212, AS350.

Summary: Experiences from the operation include a) Process of air transport, b) Intensive care in flight, c) Editing problem in flight, d) Team management and e) Teamwork.