AIR AMBULANCE ROTARY-WING (CRITICAL CARE TRANSPORT)

DESCRIPTION	An Air Ambulance Rotary-Wing (Critical Care Transport) is a helicopter that provides critical care and rapid transportation of patients from scenes, established pick-up sites or medical facilities to medical facilities. The range of transport varies by several factors, such as capabilities and configuration of the individual aircraft, capabilities of the pilot, qualifications of the medical crew and environmental/weather conditions
RESOURCE CATEGORY	Emergency Medical Services
RESOURCE KIND	Aircraft/Team
OVERALL FUNCTION	The Air Ambulance Rotary-Wing (Critical Care Transport) provides critical care, evacuation and transportation services via rotary-wing aircraft from scenes, established pick-up sites or medical facilities to medical facilities
COMPOSITION AND ORDERING SPECIFICATIONS	1. Discuss logistics for deploying this resource, such as working conditions, length of deployment, security, lodging, resupply of medical services, transportation and meals prior to deployment 2. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) places restrictions on crew duty in 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 117 3. Requestor will provide transportation (including patient care personnel to and from the landing zone (LZ) for the sending and receiving medical facilities), food and rest facilities unless other arrangements exist 4. Provider confirms an LZ of sufficient access and security to ensure the safety of the air and ground personnel, victims, spectators and other on-site individuals 5. Requestor may order backup supplies and equipment, depending on number of patients and type of event 6. Requestor can order an Aeromedical Transport Manager for administrative and logistics support 7. Requestor should provide number of patients, passengers and their weights, transport distance and equipment requirements 8. Requestor should specify personnel required to transport patient based on patient acuity 9. This team does not provide transport of patients with infectious diseases as it requires specialized teams and equipment compliant with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance

Each type of resource builds on the qualifications of the type below it. For example, Type 1 qualifications include the qualifications in Type 2, plus an increase in capability. Type 1 is the highest qualification level.

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
MINIMUM PERSONNEL PER TEAM	5	3	Not Specified
MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT PERSONNEL PER TEAM	Same as Type 2	1 - National Incident Management System (NIMS) Type 2 Aeromedical Transport Officer	NIMS Type 2 Aeromedical Transport Officer should be physically present or in direct radio or phone communication for medical direction

COMPONENT	TYPE 1	TYPE 2	NOTES
SUPPORT PERSONNEL PER TEAM	Same as Type 2, PLUS: 1 - Pilot 1 - NIMS Type 2 Registered Nurse, NIMS Type 1 Aeromedical Transport Paramedic, or NIMS Type 1, 2, or 3 Aeromedical Transport Officer	1 - Pilot 1 - NIMS Type 2 Registered Nurse, NIMS Type 1 Aeromedical Transport Paramedic, or NIMS Type 1, 2, or 3 Aeromedical Transport Officer	1. All Types capable of transporting patients requiring airway and ventilator support or continuous monitoring 2. Requestor should communicate needs in advance regarding special patient populations with high acuity needs, such as neonatal and pediatric transfers, heart-lung bypass support, invasive monitoring and high-risk obstetrics, to ensure that the equipment and crew are mission-capable 3. Requestor, provider or Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) may increase pilots based on mission needs, aircraft type and flying conditions 4. NIMS Type 2 Registered Nurse has specialties in critical care and flight nursing 5. Additional aircrew may include non-medical crew members for flight assistance and aircraft maintenance purposes 6. The pilot is not a NIMS-typed position
PATIENT LOAD CAPACITY PER TEAM	2 litter patients	1 litter patient	Not Specified
PATIENT CARE AND MEDICAL LEVEL EQUIPMENT PER TEAM	Same as Type 2	1. Critical care, advanced life support (ALS) and basic life support (BLS) supplies and equipment 2. Onboard power inverter capable of converting aircraft current for use with specialized medical equipment (such as intra-aortic balloon pump or neonatal isolette)	1. ALS equipment for high-acuity patients is mission-specific and may include IV pumps, invasive monitoring, pressure support devices, specialized medications and fetal monitoring 2. May require separate aircraft equipment/supply aeromedical evacuation treatment kit
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) EQUIPMENT PER TEAM MEMBER	Same as Type 2	Not Specified	PPE is mission specific and may vary by working environment; it includes protective footwear, protective clothing for skin exposure, eye and ear protection, respirators, gloves and masks

NOTES

Nationally typed resources represent the minimum criteria for the associated component and capability.

REFERENCES

1. FEMA, NIMS 509: Aeromedical Transport Manager
2. FEMA, NIMS 509: Aeromedical Transport Officer
3. FEMA, NIMS 509: Aeromedical Transport Paramedic
4. FEMA, NIMS 509: Registered Nurse
5. FEMA, NIMS, October 2017
6. American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT), National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP), American College of Emergency Physicians, EMSC Partnership for Children, and the American Academy of Pediatrics. Equipment for Ambulances, 2013
7. FAA 14 CFR Part 117: Flight and Duty Limitations and Rest Requirements: Flight Crew Members