Swedish National Air Medevac – SNAM
The ICU-stretcher units are equipped with built-in oxygen and power supply and can be used self-sufficiently during transfer between the hospital and flight unit. Photo: David Norlin, MSB.
FACTS

The Swedish National Air Medevac (SNAM) is a governmental response capacity under the responsibility of the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency, which can be used nationally or internationally when air-ambulance capacities by regular means are insufficient.

In SNAM a commercial airliner from SAS is converted into a large scale air-ambulance staffed by experienced and trained medical personnel from the County Council of Västerbotten. It takes 6 hours to reconfigure the cabin replacing the seats with specially designed medical equipment.

The primary purpose is to facilitate secondary transfer of patients who require a high level of care during transport to a location where adequate care can be provided. The level of care onboard is equal to what can be provided at a hospital intensive care unit.

Included in the SNAM-concept is an assessment team that can be deployed in advance to coordinate and to make necessary preparations before the air-transport is carried out.

The operational range is approximately 3 000 km’s if exhausting the oxygen supply. With refueling and a crew change the system can operate globally.

THE AIRCRAFT IS EQUIPPED WITH

- 6 intensive care stretcher units for care at advanced level
- 6–12 stretchers for care at intermediate level
- 20 seats for walking patients or others

THE ONBOARD SNAM-CREW

- 9 medical doctors
- 11 specialist nurses
- 1 medical technician
- 1 manager
- 1 turnaround coordinator
- 1 flight technician
- Pilots and cabin crew
PARTICIPANTS IN SNAM

- The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB) is responsible for the readiness and operational management in SNAM
- The National Board of Health & Welfare provides consultation to MSB prior to SNAM-operations
- Västerbotten County Council is the liable care-giver and provides the medical personnel on board
- Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) provides the aircraft, with crew, including pilots, flight attendants, flight engineers and a turnaround coordinator

More information at: www.msb.se/en/snam
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