

## **Opportunities for the Development of Emergency Medical Care**

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### **Abstract:**

**Introduction:** The rising frequency of crises and emergencies demands efficient emergency medical systems, including aeromedical services. In Bulgaria, air ambulance services are a recent development, with the first mission launched in June 2024. A survey of the attitude of health personnel is essential for the development of this high-risk sector of emergency medical care. The aim of the study is to assess motivation of future specialists for working in emergency situations, including the provision of air emergency assistance.

**Materials and Methods:** In July 2025, a cross-sectional survey was conducted among 333 students from the Medical University – Sofia (medicine, nursing, paramedics, and related specialties). Mathematical and statistical methods are used to process the data from the sociological survey.

**Results:** Almost two-thirds of respondents expressed interest in joining an air medical transport team. Key motivators for 38.7% included the challenge of novelty, avoidance of routine, and opportunities for personal achievement under risk. Remuneration ranked nearly as high (33.6%), with 66.7% believing air ambulance staff should receive higher pay than ground emergency personnel due to greater occupational hazards. In unforeseen situations such as war, industrial accidents or natural disasters, 76% would be willing to temporarily serve in air ambulance operations.

**Conclusion:** Air ambulance services attract substantial interest, particularly among students with high risk tolerance. Competitive pay aligned with the elevated risks, together with careful selection

and targeted motivation of personnel are critical for the sustainable development of this specialized and demanding field.

**Keywords:**

Emergency medical care, risks, disasters, air transport, motivation.