

**PP010 UTILIZATION AND  
OUTCOME OF EMERGENCY AND  
NON-URGENT MEDICAL  
TRANSFER USING COMMERCIAL  
AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTER IN  
SABAH: A RETROSPECTIVE  
ANALYSIS OF NEW SERVICE  
INTRODUCED IN SABAH**

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**INTRODUCTION:**

The objective of this study is to describe the pattern of air medical transfer service also known as MEDEVAC in Sabah.

**METHODS:**

A retrospective study done from 1st January 2018 until 31st December 2018 from Sabah MEDEVAC data registry using descriptive analysis.

**DISCUSSION:**

There were 290 requests of MEDEVAC mostly from Hospital Sandakan (n=117,41) and Hospital Tawau (n=93, 32%). The range of age requested for the service is from day 2 of life to 91 years old with mean age of 36 ± 25.3. Adult age group (n=171, 59%) recorded the highest, followed by pediatric age (n=55, 19%), geriatric (n=36, 12%) and neonates (n=28, 10%). The top 5 disciplines who requested Medevac service were Neurosurgical (n=71,24%), Surgical (n=42,14%), Cardiology (n=37,13%), Hematology (n=22,8%) and Medical (n=15,5%). There were 151 (52%) emergency request transfer and 139 (48%) requests for non-urgent interhospital transfer. Neurosurgical (n=42) and cardiology (n=30) has the highest request for emergency transfer whereas for non-urgent request, neurosurgical (n=29) and surgical (n=22) has the highest request. Out of 290, 67 requests were cancelled mainly due to bad weather (n=48, 72%), and critically ill patients (n=10, 15%). There were 223 air medical transfer performed in year 2018. Out of 223, 17 (8%) of the patient died after the transfer and 206 (92%) were alive.

**DISCUSSION:**

There is a need of neurosurgical, cardiology and cardiothoracic service in east Sabah to improve patients care in Sabah as most of the

emergency transfer requested were from these disciplines.

**CONCLUSION:**

The air medical service should be expanded especially in Borneo mainly due to its unique geographical feature as one of the strategies to improve healthcare system.