#### LWI Grand Health Bazaar

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'Travelers' Medicine & In-flight Healthcare'

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### Introduction

- Each year more that 1 billion people travel by air.
- Expected to double by 2020.
- Growing convenience and affordability especially for long haul flight.
- Most preferred means of transportation
- Global population is growing older.
- Increased number of Senior travels.
- Increased risk of health emergencies.

# Challenges of Air travel

Pre-flight stress



In-flight stress

## Impact on travelers

#### Increased Health Risk:

- Especially travelers with pre existing health problems.
- Common In-flight emergencies are:
  - Heart attack-
  - Loss of consciousness or fainting
  - hyperventilation
  - Shortness of breath
  - Chest pain
  - GIT issues
  - Deep-vein thrombosis (blood clotting disorder)

## In-flight Medical Care

A Shared responsibility.

- Traveler
  - Pre-flight evaluation.
  - carry adequate supply of medication
- Airline
  - onboard medical kit- to include nitroglycerine,
     antihistamine and epinephrine for allergy
  - An automated external defibrillator (AED)
  - CPR masks (pediatric and adult)

## In-flight Medical Care cont'd

- Bronchodilators
- Analgesics
- -Intravenous access equipments &solutions
- -Intravenous Dextrose.
- On board Physician may be asked to help.

### Recommendations

- Continuous training of Flight attendants to recognize medical emergency and response.
- NMA to continue to promote measures to improve the availability and efficacy of in-flight medical care.
- World Medical association calls on its members to:
  - educate physicians about the problems of in-flight medical emergencies;

### Recommendations cont'd

- inform physicians of training opportunities & promote the development where they do not exist.
- encourage physicians to discuss potential problems with patients at high risk.
- National aviation authorities are encouraged to provide yearly reports in a standardized format on in-flight incident.

