

SUMMARY

This report provides the results of a demonstration and assessment of selected United States Air Force (USAF) medical technologies during the SEAHAWK 2002 (SH 02) exercise, which was held at various locations in the state of Washington from 13–26 July 2002. The Air Force Medical Evaluation Support Activity (AFMESA) provided the Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS), Experimental Exercise and Technology Insertion (XTI) facility to the exercise participants.

The technical maturity assessment (TMA) of medical technologies was conducted at the EMEDS-XTI patient treatment facility and the Mobile Aero medical Staging Facility (MASF) at Fort Lewis, WA, and on board C-9, C-17, C-130, and KC-135 aero medical evacuation (AE) aircraft originating out of McChord Air Force Base (AFB), WA. A more comprehensive description of the assessment results for each of the technologies is contained in the appropriate annexes of this report.

The medical technology assessment objective of AFMESA during the SH 02 AE exercise was to demonstrate the potential military utility of selected new medical technologies for use by deployed USAF medical units. These technologies included the following.

- Care-in-the-Air (CITA)
- Global Expeditionary Medical System (GEMS) and its components
- Special Medical Emergency Evacuation Device (SMEED)
- VitalLink 1200
- Voice Recognition Software (VRS)

The use of the EMEDS-XTI facility during SH 02 presented AFMESA with a “last minute” opportunity to assess the technical maturity of emerging medical technologies and to determine their readiness to progress to a more thorough military utility assessment (MUA) of the systems. Detachment 1 Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center (Det 1 AFOTEC) support this TMA of candidate technologies during SH 02. Although completion of designated assessment objectives varied for each technology, data to support respective military utility decisions and a proof of concept were successfully collected for all of the technologies.