

PREFACE

This field manual provides the philosophy of and doctrine for medical evacuation in a theater of operations (TO). Tactics, techniques, and procedures for accomplishing the medical evacuation of sick, injured, or wounded soldiers are included. Medical evacuation, with the provision of en route medical care, is a vital link in the continuum of care from the point of injury through the health service support (HSS) system to medical treatment facilities (MTFs) with the required definitive or restorative medical treatment capabilities. This manual further discusses the coordination requirements for and use of nonmedical transportation assets to accomplish the medical evacuation mission. These nonmedical assets may be used in a mass casualty situation or other circumstances when the available medical evacuation assets are overwhelmed. In discussing aeromedical evacuation, definitive guidance for the performance of hoist rescue missions is also provided. The information in this publication on manual and litter carries may be used to instruct personnel in the proper methods of handling and moving casualties. This manual is intended for use by medical and nonmedical unit commanders and their staffs.

For the purpose of this manual, pilots are identified as:

- Pilot in command (PC).
- Copilot (PI).
- Pilot (if either pilot can perform the function).

Echelon is a North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) term used to describe levels of medical care. For the purposes of this manual, the terms “level” and “echelon” are interchangeable.

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Unless this publication states otherwise, masculine nouns and pronouns do not refer exclusively to men.

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