LANDING ZONE SAFETY TRAINING
MAYO CLINIC AMBULANCE SERVICE

Take offs are optional, landings are mandatory
OBJECTIVES

• Describe auto launch criteria and which patients may benefit from a helicopter

• Assign roles and select and prepare a suitable landing zone

• Effectively communicate hazards and obstructions to flight crews, including night scene operations

• Articulate emergency and rescue procedures
WHICH PATIENTS BENEFIT FROM A HELICOPTER?
AUTOLAUNCH
TIME SAVES LIVES!

• Helicopter dispatched simultaneously with other responding agencies
• Established in multiple regions
• Can request an aircraft even if criteria is not met
• May cancel if not needed
LANDING ZONE SAFETY: MAYO CLINIC AMBULANCE SERVICE

https://youtu.be/j8Xyh5mv3OM
ASSIGNING ROLES

LZ COORDINATOR
• Chooses landing zone
• Preps landing zone
• Responsible for communication with aircraft

TAIL ROTOR GUARD
• Is positioned at least 50 ft behind aircraft
• Ensures NO ONE / NOTHING approaches the aircraft
• Never leaves this area
LANDING ZONE SELECTION

- What works?
- What doesn’t?
- What is dangerous?
LANDING ZONE
PREPARING THE LANDING ZONE

- Low, medium and high-level scan
- Verify tail rotor guard is in place
- Position vehicles to secure and mark landing zone
CLEAR COMMUNICATION IS IMPERATIVE!

- Location-specific frequency assigned by dispatch
- All pertinent information
- Use plain language and visible landmarks
- Mayo Clinic Ambulance Emergency Communications 1-800-237-6822
LET’S PRACTICE!
THIS IS WHAT WE SEE
AIRCRAFT FINAL APPROACH

- High altitude scan of LZ prior to landing
- Land into the wind
- Pilot may rotate tail in low hover prior to landing
- Never approach aircraft
- Protect yourself!!
NEVER APPROACH A HELICOPTER!

DANGER ZONES
PATIENT LOADING

We may ask for your help!
SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR NIGHT SCENE FLIGHTS
Mayo Clinic Ambulance aircraft will not land or take off if a drone is operating in the vicinity.
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

• Weapons
• Search and Rescue
• Multiple Aircraft
WHAT HAPPENS IF WE NEED TO BE RESCUED?

- Wait for blades to stop
- Emergency shutdown
- Emergency door release
- Avoid identified hazardous areas
Emergency Shutdown Procedures
Mayo One--N145SM

Step one:
A) Locate the warning unit on the upper portion of the instrument panel.
B) Raise the red guard covering the emergency off switch.
C) Press to release the emergency off switch.
D) Repeat for the second emergency off switch.
E) Engine shutdown could take up to 20 seconds.

Aircraft emergency shutdown now complete
QUESTIONS?
THANK YOU AND STAY SAFE!