

МЕДИЦИНСКИ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ - ВАРНА
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FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Approved:

Dean:

(Prof. Yoto Yotov, MD, PhD)



SYLLABUS

IN

Elective subject "MARITIME INCIDENTS "
Included in the M.D. CURRICULUM
For the II, III, IV, V-YEAR STUDENTS
Educational and qualification degree – MASTER
Professional qualification – M.D.

Specialty	MEDICINE
Educational - qualification degree	master
Organizational form of education	full-time
Auditorial activity (Lectures/Seminars)	30 (0/30)
Extra-auditorial activity	30
ECTS- credits	2
Discipline type	elective
Semester/s of education	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Semester of examination	3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
Developer(s) of the Syllabus:	Assos. Prof. Nikolina Radeva, PhD Capt. Todor Yotov

Varna, 2025

ANNOTATION

Aims of the course	<p>The issue of protecting human health and life at sea is the main goal of the discipline "Marine Incidents". Ensuring the safety of crews and the ecological balance of the world's oceans are priority tasks of international legal acts and conventions, supported by the joint cooperation of a number of international organizations, national maritime administrations and MU-Varna. The regulatory toolkit is improved annually, which helps the development of effective rules related to shipping safety and the prevention of maritime incidents.</p> <p>The discipline "Marine Incidents" examines an important and current issue, which students of the specialty "Medicine" have the opportunity to become familiar with. The main emphasis is placed on the growing need to bring health services at sea to a qualitatively new stage, in order to achieve sustainability in maritime healthcare. The topic of telemedicine is extremely modern and responds to the global trends entering shipping. The issues considered relate to the integration between medical diagnostic devices and various information systems, the remote control of medical robots when performing certain manipulations in emergency medical conditions at sea, etc.</p> <p>The "Maritime Incidents" elective course investigates, analyzes and summarizes some of the main elements of maritime risk. The topics clarify its sources, as well as the possibilities for its sustainable management. Through this approach, complete clarity and a comprehensive understanding of the characteristics of maritime incidents are obtained. The possibilities for achieving maritime security and prevention of health risks at sea are revealed</p>
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Outcomes for students at the end of the course:	
Competences	<p>After training in the Maritime Incidents elective course, students acquire specific competencies that will prepare them to respond quickly to emergency situations at sea. The protection of human life at sea requires specialized knowledge and skills, as the conditions there are different from those on land. The main aspects covered are in the field of telemedical consulting services, medical evacuation from sea, treatment in remote clinics, repatriation after treatment, etc.</p> <p>After training, students acquire key competencies in areas such as: providing first aid in incidents at sea, managing medical situations in maritime conditions, working with specialized equipment, communication and coordination, managing medical emergencies, ethical and legal aspects, psychological support and stress management, working in conditions of limited resources, etc.</p>
Competence group	<p>1. Patient Care that is compassionate, appropriate, and effective for treating health problems and promoting health.</p>
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Specialized Maritime Medicine: How the maritime environment affects health (e.g. seasickness, hypothermia, dehydration, trauma) and first aid; ▪ Chronic Disease Management: How to care for patients with heart disease, diabetes, asthma and other chronic conditions at sea and first aid; ▪ Medications and Drugs: Knowledge of essential medications, their storage and administration in conditions of humidity and different temperatures;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Medical Equipment on Board: Ship's First Aid Kit - what it should contain and how to use it, Diagnostic Equipment - working with mobile devices for measuring vital signs; ▪ Legal and Ethical Aspects: Knowledge of patient rights and medical obligations in international waters. Familiarity with the rules of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Maritime Health Convention (MHC).
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use of life-saving appliances: Working with life jackets, lifeboats, signaling devices, etc.; ▪ Evacuation at sea: Organizing the safe evacuation of a injured person in an emergency; ▪ Psychological support: Skills for calming and supporting patients who experience fear or panic during their stay at sea. ▪ Teamwork: Ability to coordinate with the ship's crew, medical personnel and rescue services. ▪ Communication and coordination: Contact with shore services or medical consultants. Preparation of reports on the patient's condition.
Competence group	2. Practice-Based Learning and Improvement that involves investigation and evaluation of their own patient care, appraisal, and assimilation of scientific evidence, and improvements in patient care.
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emergency management. ▪ Evacuation of a casualty from the sea. ▪ Use of life-saving equipment.
Skills	▪ Working with emergency evacuation kit during the visit onboard a vessel.
Competence group	3. Interpersonal and Communication Skills that result in effective information exchange and teaming with patients, their families, and other health professionals.
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teamwork (students develop two course assignments in groups of two/three): Group Dynamics - understanding team roles and promoting effective collaboration. Leadership and Support - taking a leadership role when needed, but also providing support to other team members. ▪ Intercultural Communication: Understanding Cultural Differences - being aware of differences in cultural attitudes.
Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Showing concern: The ability to create trust and calm in the casualty in crisis situations. ▪ Confidentiality: Ensuring the protection of the victim's personal information.
Competence group	4. Professionalism , as manifested through a commitment to carrying out professional responsibilities, adherence to ethical principles, and sensitivity to a diverse patient population.
Knowledge	▪ Knowledge of the international code of ethics for work at sea.
Skills	▪ Resolving ethical dilemmas: The ability to make informed decisions when there is a conflict between medical needs and the patient's wishes.