



# TelEmergency for Maritime

-- Supporting seafarers for better patient outcomes and more cost-effective care --

The Center for Telehealth at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) offers 24/7, on-demand emergency medicine services to maritime groups through its TelEmergency program. Using real-time, interactive video conferencing, UMMC Telehealth connects crew care teams on-deck with board-certified emergency medicine specialists at UMMC.

## The Need:

Maritime working conditions often do not involve direct access to healthcare facilities or medical services. When a crew member has a medical emergency offshore, a decision must be made whether to divert or reroute the vessel or air extricate the patient. This can be a very costly decision, particularly in cases when it is questionable as to whether the medical issue at hand truly is urgent or emergent.

## The Solution:

Thanks to advances in technology, telemedicine services can be successfully and securely delivered even at sea. TelEmergency is a type of telemedicine service that delivers urgent and emergency patient care through basic audio-visual technology. Using real-time, interactive video conferencing, clinicians at UMMC can evaluate, monitor, and treat crew members who are suffering from illness or injury, providing crucial medical support to crew medical care teams.

## The Benefits:

- Access to quality healthcare for crew members, providing them with a sense of safety
- Cost effective and convenient model of delivery
- Reduced costs associated with unnecessary evacuations and diversions
- Chronic illnesses can be managed
- Risk of long-term disabilities due to delay in treatment is reduced

## Why UMMC?

UMMC is a Level 1 Trauma Center, a pioneer in TelEmergency, and a recognized leader in Telehealth, most notably as one of two Centers of Excellence in Telehealth as designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration. Through its TelEmergency program, UMMC provides immediate access to highly trained and specialized physicians and practitioners within its Department of Emergency Medicine.

## Getting Started:

For more information on TelEmergency maritime services, please visit [ummchealth.com/telehealth](http://ummchealth.com/telehealth), email us at [telehealth@umc.edu](mailto:telehealth@umc.edu), or call **601.815.2020**.

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