



**Mobile healthcare**  
**in France**

Mobile healthcare vehicles  
and public health emergencies



# Mobility in the healthcare sector

## France has long been a pioneer of innovation in the mobile healthcare sector

In 1792, French surgeon Baron Dominique-Jean Larrey, was the first person to understand the need for urgent care for the injured in the Napoleonic wars, and subsequently invented the ambulance.

Marie Curie, the winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1903 and for Chemistry in 1911, used her knowledge of radioactivity to help design around twenty mobile radiology units which, from 1914, would be used to locate shrapnel in the bodies of wounded soldiers.

Between 1950 and 1968, in response to a large number of road accidents, work carried out by Professor Cara, a pioneer in emergency road services, was combined with that of Professor Bourret in Salon-de-Provence, and of Louis Serre and Louis Lareng to create the Urgent Medical Aid Service (SAMU) and the Mobile Emergency and Resuscitation Service (SMUR) that we know today.

In 1954, occupational health bodies opened the first mobile health clinics. This phenomenon really took off in the 1970s, marking the beginning for mobile medical services.

## Three large, specialized industrial families

### 1 Medical vehicles and mobile medical units

Vehicles, including all types of ambulances, and medical vehicles whose aim is to respond to emergency situations, are used to transport the injured to urban health centers. Mobile medical units allow for activities specific to health centers, such as general medicine, medical imaging, specialized medicine (gynecology, ophthalmology, dentistry, etc.), and blood transfusions to be conducted closer to people living in remote areas. These mobility services are often used within the context of healthcare campaigns to raise awareness, to make up for a lack of infrastructure, to ramp up early screenings for diseases and to carry out vaccinations.

### 2 Service providers

They offer different access solutions to community care and are supported by the arrival of on-board telemedicine, which allows personnel to offer first-level medical treatment with guidance in real time from top medical professionals. A combination of these solutions offers access to care for people in remote areas. Specialized software infrastructure (Crew Resource Management Health Emergency) offer vital support and guarantee connectivity, and also allow for the coordination of care in the field, working like SAMU or SMUR, dedicated to managing exceptional health crises, epidemics and disasters. The France sector also offers qualified specialist service providers on airborne and international medical evacuations (medevac).

### 3 Suppliers of medical devices

These devices, designed to be transported, mobile, light and autonomous, play a major role in healthcare mobility. They are used during transport healthcare in early resuscitation and the vital diagnosis and treatment of pediatric thermoregulation in distressed newborn babies.

## Our solutions



### Ambulances

Adapting ambulances to the needs of healthcare teams, whatever they may be. With the help of planning professionals, French expertise will be able to meet your needs.



### Light-duty medical vehicles

Rapid response vehicles (light-duty medical vehicles) have been specially designed to deliver first aid directly in the area where it is needed.



### Temperature-controlled vehicles

Vaccines, plasma and organs must be transported at a specific temperature to guarantee the sustainability of the care being provided.



### Services: medical evacuations, crisis management software

Airborne treatment by either plane or helicopter, ensuring patients receive vital medical care before they reach the medical care facility. Other services include specialized crew resource management to connect with teams in emergency medical situations, helping to manage SAMU and health crises.



### Mobile clinics

To make healthcare accessible to as many people as possible in the population. A vehicle body specialist turns heavy goods vehicles and 3.5-tonne commercial vehicles into mobile clinics, offering services including community medicine, blood transfusions, support with healthcare campaigns, medical assistance and even operating theaters.



### Forensic transport

Refrigerated vehicles for transporting bodies. There are a number of possible configurations to bring maximum functionality and thus offer vehicles that can be adapted to particular working habits.



### Light-duty medical vehicles (4x4s)

Care must be accessible to all, and so ambulances and rapid response vehicles come with four-wheel drive engines and reinforced frames, which makes them entirely suited to all road types.



### Medical devices for use in transport

Manufacturers have pooled their expertise to create medical devices to support the teams working in the field, with items including defibrillators, multiparameter monitors, and neonatal incubators.



### Transporting people with reduced mobility

Offering vehicles that match the needs of their users. Providing advice and quality. French industrialists put in place the necessary advice and support services to help with choosing a vehicle and its features.



35 million emergency calls



600 hospitals

15,000 ambulances



5,500 professionals

101 SAMU 350 SMUR



French Ministry of Health, Healthcare centers, SAMU, SMUR, paramedics, car body specialists, manufacturers of medical devices, service providers, computer software services and telemedicine.

Listed in order of activity, here are the standards mainly used by the sector, serving as a guarantee of professionalism and premium quality products/services, and that the safety of your patients is of utmost importance:



# Mobile solutions **in the field**

## **Libya**

A fully fitted out mobile clinic with two consultation rooms, as well as a small pharmacy, moves from village to village to offer high quality care to the sick. In 2017, the mobile medical unit traveled a total of 10,113 km (6,280 miles) and carried out 10,750 consultations, with 80% of patients being refugees, half of whom were under 18 years of age.

## **Burkina Faso**

This mobile unit has carried out x-rays on the lungs of people requiring medical monitoring who work in the country's mines and cement factories, as well as in agriculture. The mobile clinic toured the country in 2018, carrying out more than 12 healthcare campaigns. More than 4,600 x-ray images were taken during the year, thus doubling the capacity of the "fixed" center in the capital Ouagadougou.

## **Romania**

Some 1,500 ambulances of type A, B and C for emergency care and patient transport are currently being delivered to the country, thanks to a partnership with French car manufacturer Renault. These new ambulances have replaced an old fleet of medical vehicles.



French Healthcare is an innovative "public-private" initiative, which aims to bring together the key players in the French healthcare ecosystem (businesses, researchers, health professionals, public key players, etc.) to promote, together, their activities, expertise and technologies on an international scale.



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