Ambulance Readiness for Critical Care Transport in Jamaica

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OBJECTIVE

Assess whether ambulance services were equipped to transport critically ill patients.

METHODS

The researchers surveyed public and private providers in 2020 and compared equipment, medications and staffing with critical-care transport recommendations.

RESULTS

Fifteen of 27 identified services participated. Pulse oximetry was available in 60%, automated blood pressure monitoring in 53% and ECG in 13%. Fewer than 30% employed emergency medical technicians or paramedics.

CONCLUSION

The authors called for stronger oversight and improved readiness for critical-care transport.