

Enabling safer medical missions

Pilots at Australian Helicopters use specialised aviation weather forecasts from the Bureau of Meteorology to guide their operations throughout South Australia. With vast distances to cover and few landmarks to help with visual navigation, accurate weather information is particularly vital in outback regions. Bureau forecasters assist pilots in their detailed flight planning by providing tailored phone briefings and forecasts for remote destinations. This enables Australian Helicopters to plan safer routes and make 'go or no-go' decisions for their emergency medical flights.



Aviation company Australian Helicopters relies on specialised weather forecasts for its emergency medical flights.

Photo: Andrew Taylor

Berri hospital can be a difficult destination for night-time medical evacuations during winter, due to its long distance from Adelaide. Low cloud about the Mt Lofty Ranges can make navigation difficult, with the potential for icing on the aircraft. Low cloud and fog in the Riverland can also make flight planning there challenging. The weather intelligence we receive from the Bureau enables us to operate with confidence during our medical emergency flights.



Andrew Taylor

Assistant Base Manager, Pilot—Adelaide
Australian Helicopters



Australian Government
Bureau of Meteorology