



Life Link III is a leader in air medical transport. Life Link III provides transportation for patients in Minnesota, Wisconsin and throughout the United States via helicopter and airplane ambulance.

Helicopter bases are located in:

- Alexandria, Minn.
- Willmar, Minn.
- Rice Lake, Wisc.
- Hibbing, Minn.
- Blaine, Minn.

Service is provided 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for emergency or non-emergency transfers. Life Link III completes over 2200 helicopter and 200 airplane transports annually.

Life Link III is fully accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS). This accreditation reflects Life Link III's commitment to meeting the highest standards in patient care and transport safety.

## **HISTORY**

Life Link III began in 1974, under the name of Bio Medical Research Associates (BMRA), as a pioneer in the industry by providing intra-aortic balloon pump support, Swan-Ganz and other hemodynamic monitoring services to hospitals. Recognizing a need for critical care transportation services, the company designed special mobile units to provide transportation for critically ill patients. In 1985, BMRA was purchased by three Twin Cities hospitals, largely to operate a cost-effective helicopter service, and became Life Link III. Today, Life Link III operates as a non-profit corporation, with nine consortium members, including:

- Allina Health
- Fairview Health Services
- Regions Hospital
- St. Cloud Hospital/CentraCare Health System
- Essentia Health - St. Mary's Medical Center
- Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota
- Hennepin County Medical Center
- Sacred Heart Hospital of Eau Claire, WI
- St. Luke's

## **PATIENT CARE**

Life Link III is dedicated to the highest level of patient care in all lines of service. By strategically basing helicopters throughout the region the time to reach patients has been significantly decreased. This is especially noted in trauma, STEMI and stroke patients, with many positive outcomes that can be directly related to a shorter time before the patient reached definitive care.

Life Link III's highly trained staff can monitor and treat patients with any medical condition or injury, including:

- Multi-system trauma patients
- Spinal cord injury patients
- High-risk obstetrical patients
- Newborn intensive care patients
- Cardiac, pulmonary and internal medicine patients
- Burn patients
- Limb reattachment patients
- Transplant patients
- Any critically ill or injured patient

Life Link III aircraft are equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment, including:

- Adult, pediatric and neonatal ventilators
- Maquet Cardiosave balloon pump
- Lucas™2
- Swan-Ganz and other invasive monitoring equipment
- End tidal CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring
- RSI capabilities

- Infusion pumps
- Defibrillator/monitors
- 2 units O-negative blood

## **VEHICLES AND STAFF**

Life Link III operates Bell 407 helicopters for transport or on-scene emergency response and has access to a fleet of dedicated airplane ambulances for national and international transport.

Critical care team members have either hospital intensive care or emergency room experience. Life Link III provides a nurse/paramedic team on helicopter transports. The more than 70 clinical staff members undergo extensive, continual in-service education to ensure the most advanced critical care and technology are provided to any patient requiring specialized care. If needed, specialized teams and/or physicians will accompany Life Link III transport team members.

Pilots are experienced aviators and have each logged thousands of hours of flying time. They also take on-going recurrent training in their respective areas. The airplane division of Life Link III works in partnership with Club Jet, based in Eden Prairie, Minn. The helicopter division works in partnership with Air Methods, Inc. based in Denver, CO (Air Methods Corporation QMLA253U).

## **CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER**

*R.J. Frascone, MD*, Director of Emergency Medical Services, Regions Hospital

## **MANAGEMENT**

*Edward R. Eroe, FACHE, CAE, CMTE*, President and CEO

## **LIFE LINK III BOARD MEMBERS**

*John Doherty*, Regional President, Greater Minnesota, Fairview Health Services

*Edward R. Eroe, FACHE, CAE, CMTE*, President and CEO, Life Link III

*John Folstad*, Director, Clinical Services, Sacred Heart Hospital

*RJ Frascone, MD*, Director of Emergency Medical Services, Regions Hospital

*William Heegaard, MD MPH*, Assistant Chief, Hennepin County Medical Center

*Jo Ann Hoag, RN, MA*, Vice President, Network Development, St. Luke's

*Greg Klugherz*, Vice President and CFO, CentraCare Health System

*Gretchen Leiterman*, Vice President, Operations & Hospital Specialty Services, Regions Hospital

*Jim Leste, MS, CHSP*, Senior Director, Environmental Operations, Children's Hospitals and Clinics of Minnesota

*Michael McAvoy, MS*, Vice President, Operations, SMDC Health System

*David R. Miller, MBA*, President, River Falls Area Hospital

*Steve Sterner, MD, FACEP*, Chief of Ambulatory Care, Hennepin County Medical Center

## **FOR CONSULT OR TO DISPATCH ANY OF LIFE LINK III'S TRANSPORT SERVICES CALL:**

In Twin Cities: 612-378-LINK (5465)

Toll Free: 1-800-328-1377

Administration: 612-638-4900

1-800-283-4025

[www.lifelinkiii.com](http://www.lifelinkiii.com)