



THE NORWEGIAN CENTRE FOR MARITIME AND DIVING MEDICINE

The Norwegian Centre for Maritime and Diving Medicine (NCMDM) is the national centre of excellence for maritime medicine in Norway. The centre was established in 2005 by an act of the Norwegian Parliament and is organized as an integrated part of the Haukeland University Hospital, the second largest hospital in Norway. The NCMDM cooperates closely with the Norwegian Maritime Authority, the Norwegian Coastal Administration, the Coastal Radio Service, the Norwegian Joint Rescue Coordination Centres (JRCC) and the Norwegian Navy.

The mission of the NCMDM is to promote health among seafarers. Main activities include research and innovation projects, coursework in selection medicine and medical consultancy of maritime authorities, authorities, ship-owners, and seafarers' organizations. NCMDM chairs the appellate body of the Norwegian Maritime Authority and acts as experts in the vetting of seafarers' doctors in Norway. NCMDM has national responsibility for occupational examination of professional divers and operates the Norwegian telemedical assistance service (Radio Medico Norway). In 2022, NCMDM provided telemedical services for 2275 seafarers and assisted in 204 medical evacuations.

The NCMDM Course Centre provides all compulsory training for medical doctors seeking approval as seafarer's doctors, petroleum doctors and diving doctors (renewal) in Norway. In 2022, NCMDM organized 18 courses, based on 6 different curricula approved by the Norwegian Maritime Authority and the Norwegian Directorate of Health. A total of 526 doctors participated in courses at NCMDM in 2022.

The Appellate Body is the legal body of the Norwegian Maritime Authority which considers appeals of decisions made by Norwegian seafarer's doctors regarding health certificates for seafarers. The body is chaired by a medical doctor from the NCMDM and includes representatives from the Norwegian Maritime Authority and the seafarers' trade unions. A total of 73 cases were concluded by the appellate body in 2022.

The NCMDM is the point of contact for international collaboration in maritime medicine and collaborates closely with maritime medical experts all over the world and maintains and updates the Textbook of Maritime Health (<https://textbook.maritimemedicine.com>). The textbook is a comprehensive collection of articles covering the field of maritime medicine available online free of charge.

In cooperation with the maritime insurance company Gard and the Norwegian Maritime Administration, the NCMDM developed the Mariners Medico Guide (www.medicoguide.com, published in 2022) which is a step-by-step, digital and quality assured medical guide for seafarers.

The guide is available free of charge to seafarers worldwide and is recognised by a number of maritime flag states.

The maritime industry is evolving fast. As we continue to develop our medical services into the future, we welcome closer cooperation with partners in Norway and abroad. Please reach out. Together we can make a difference to health at sea.

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