

Mayo Clinic News Network

Title: Mayo One: Emergency Blood Supplies Onboard / **Date:** November 2015

Intro: In an emergency, getting people to the hospital quickly is essential. But, experts at Mayo Clinic say the care patients get along the way is just as important. That was certainly the case for a Minnesota mother, whose life was saved because the medical helicopter that came to get her was stocked with something most air ambulances do not carry. Here's Dennis Douda for the Mayo Clinic News Network.

Video

Audio

Total running time [0:00]	/// Video
Dennis Douda speaking	Amaya Manning just turned one. She is an absolute delight for her mom and dad, Shawn and Amber.
Amber Manning speaking	“Yeah, she’s a beautiful baby girl and I’m just really glad that I’m here to enjoy the time with her.”
Dennis Douda speaking	Amber almost wasn’t here. Complications during Amaya’s birth very nearly took her life.
Amber Manning speaking	“Amaya’s vitals kept dropping, so they decided to do an emergency C-section.”
Shawn Manning speaking	“At first everything was going good.”
Amber Manning speaking	“You know, from there some things kind of took a turn for the worst.”
Dennis Douda speaking	Shawn recalls getting news that Amber was hemorrhaging badly. He was asked to approve an emergency hysterectomy to try to save her life.
TITLE: Shawn Manning, Amber’s Husband	“We need you to give us permission to do an emergency surgery. And I said, what’s going on? And she said that they couldn’t stop the bleeding.”
TITLE: Tricia Riggott, Mayo Clinic Flight Paramedic	“And I immediately looked at my partner and said we should tell the pilot to get the blood.”
Dennis Douda speaking	Tricia Riggott is a flight paramedic for Mayo Clinic’s air ambulance service, Mayo One. She was part of the medical crew that rushed to transport Amber to a trauma center...
Tricia Riggott speaking	“This is our blood cooler here at Mayo One.”
Dennis Douda speaking	... after a vital stop at the Hanger’s blood supply refrigerator.

Tricia Riggott speaking	“We take this on every flight no matter what kind of flight we’re going on. No matter where we go, we automatically put it on the helicopter and take it with us. We have three units of thawed plasma and three units of packed red blood cells in our blood cooler. You need to replace both in someone in Amber’s condition.”
Dennis Douda speaking	Amber was bleeding so badly that even the 15 minute flight from the small regional hospital would have been too far, without the blood products onboard.
Tricia Riggott speaking	“We’re, like, we need to get as much blood in her as we can, like, immediately.”
Dr. Scott Zietlow speaking	“I don’t think she would have survived under other circumstances.”
Dennis Douda speaking	Mayo Clinic hospitals became the first in the country to carry packed red blood cells on its helicopters in 1988.
Dr. Scott Zietlow speaking	“It’s the right thing to do for our patient population, especially when there’s longer transport times.”
TITLE: Dr. Scott Zietlow, Mayo One Medical Director	“It is a commitment both on resources, personnel, training, education, safety. There are many factors that go into this.”
Dennis Douda speaking	In 2009, Mayo Clinic added thawed plasma on all flights, as well, hoping to save even more lives.
Dr. Scott Zietlow speaking	“It’s uncommon. We were the first civilian institution in this country, in the world, to carry thawed plasma.”
TITLE: Dr. Donald Jenkins, Mayo Clinic Trauma Director	“Over a thousand patients since that time, since 2009, have benefited from pre-hospital administration of plasma.”
Dennis Douda speaking	Dr. Donald Jenkins is the trauma director at Mayo’s Saint Marys Hospital.
Dr. Donald Jenkins speaking	“Far more non-trauma patients are benefiting from this change in practice than trauma patients. That goes to Amber’s case precisely.”
Dennis Douda speaking	Once in the hospital, Amber also needed platelets and coagulating-blood clotting agents to help control her bleeding. By the time surgeons were able to stop her hemorrhaging and get her on the road to recovery, her total body blood volume had been replaced 4-times over.

Dennis Douda speaking	Ironically, Amber is a Mayo Clinic Human Resources employee assigned to Hospital Operations and the Mayo One and emergency transport services team that saved her life. Needless to say, she made a trip to the helicopter hangar to thank the flight crew personally.
Tricia Riggott speaking	“I got a big hug.”
Amber Manning speaking	“I don’t think there’s enough words to express how grateful I am. I’m just in awe of what they do, each and every day.”
Dennis Douda speaking	For the Mayo Clinic News Network, I’m Dennis Douda.

Anchor tag: Mayo Clinic plans to begin carrying blood **platelets** on all of its helicopters very soon, as well. By the way, Dr. Zietlow (ZEET-low) says, besides saving lives, an unintended benefit of treating patients in need of blood before they get to the trauma center, is that they generally end up needing less blood.

For more information, visit our website at ... [STATIONS: Per the licensing agreement, please provide a link from your station's website to <http://www.MayoClinic.org> or voice tag "MayoClinic.org" for more information.]