A Global Emergency:  
Priorities for Reforming International Emergency Medical Systems  
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Introduction
In 2018, the World Health Organization (WHO) set guidelines deciding what the standard for emergency care is on the world stage. Now that two years have past countries need to be assessed to determine compliance to these standards. The question we wanted to answer was if international Emergency Medical Systems (EMS) are meeting the WHO standards (organized dispatch system, basic life support, a way to transport patients, and a receiving emergency department) and if they are also meeting the gold standard (as defined by professionals which will be listed in results).

Methods
The data were collected by a simple stratified random sample of 30 countries. It was collected using the divisions of developed, economies in transition, and developing (based on NATO guidelines). Using PubMed and Google Scholar, each country was searched with phrases such as “ambulance care” or “prehospital care.” Information was collected on the time it took responders to get to a scene, what type of communication was used for the public to contact the responders, the level of medical care that could be provided, and the ease of access for patients for payment. Each of these areas was graded on a scale so that each system could be compared.

Results
There are five general areas that experts recommend EMS systems develop in:  
- Timely response  
- Organized dispatch system (such as calling 911)  
- Advanced medical care (involving IV’s and medication)  
- Some form of insurance  
- A hospital where emergency care can be given in a timely manner

This graph summarizes the data taken for the percentage of each type of country that met the expert recommended areas.

Conclusions
- Developing countries are less likely to meet the recommended professional guidelines  
- Developing countries have a difficult time meeting the low requirements set by the WHO.

Trauma is one of the leading causes of death in developing countries. The lack of EMS response shows where there is a lack of adequate medical care.

Moving Forward
While there is an extreme lack of proficiency in EMS guidelines in developing countries, certain initiatives could improve needed relief now. One study showed that improving an emergency department in a developing country had better outcomes for the patients than improving the out of hospital care. Other options could include creating organized dispatch systems and increasing the level of license of first responders.

References and Acknowledgements
A complete list of references can be accessed from Greg Memmott G.Memmott07@gmail.com
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