

Balancing Patient Confidentiality and Protection of Public Safety

Antti Tuori, A330/340 F/O, M.D., Ph.D., AME 2

Is the issue unique for aviation?

- All safety critical professions share the same concerns
- Should be discussed broadly in society, not only aviation context



What is meant by patient confidentiality?

- Authority/European repository vs pilot?
- AME medical confidentiality?
 - Part Med
- Other doctors' medical confidentiality?
 - National law & doctors ethics
 - MED.A.020



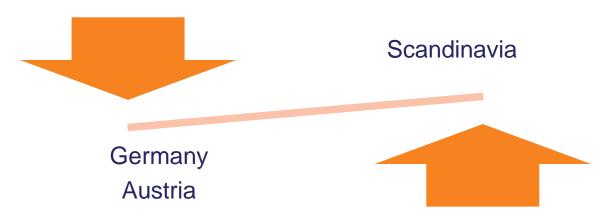
Authority/European repository vs pilot?

- Licencing authority
 - Medical certificate status?
 - Content of medical examination & medical history?
 - All the medical information?
 - De-identification?
- European data repository
 - What kind of data?
 - Who has the access?
 - What is the data used for?
 - Security





Acceptance by pilots



No uniform opinion & approach

- Current practises
- Different national / societal background
- Health care systems
- Trust in authority



Major concerns of European data repository

- No personal medical data; only information of the medical certificate status & previous AME
- Only doctors to have access to medical data
- Only the ones who need, and when they need, the data should have access
 - A separate PIN code from the pilot at the medical
- De-identification of the data in the repository
 - A separate code for each pilot



Major concerns of European data repository

- Is <u>checking the repository</u> mandatory before issuing the medical certificate?
 - Connection / access problems?
 - → New appointment, in worst case a period without medical?
- Security issues



'Certificate shopping'

How big is the issue ?

Are the rules made for just one or two

bad apples?

Proportionality ?





'Borderline' cases

Need for second opinion,

- Currently the authority decides on most of the limitations in Class 1 medicals
- Could this be delegated to AeMC?
- Enough experience needed in decision making



Conclusions

- Not an <u>aviation specific</u> issue. All safety critical professions share the same concerns
- A broad national / <u>societal discussion</u> is needed
- Is 'certificate shopping' indeed wide-spread?
- Data-repository raises major concerns that must be addressed

