

Institute of Aviation Medicine

Main functions

- ◆ Aviation medicine training for aircrew, aviation-related personnel and health specialist officers
- ◆ Aviation medicine research, development, testing and evaluation
- ◆ Human factors in aviation
- ◆ Central Aircrew Medical Fitness Boards and aircrew applicant medical evaluations
- ◆ Aviation medicine consultancy services
- ◆ An aviation medicine library.

Topics recently addressed by AVMED

- ◆ ADF night vision goggle training and policy development
- ◆ Revision of aircrew aviation medical training schedules
- ◆ On-board oxygen generating systems for RAAF aircraft
- ◆ Development, in collaboration with the Centre for Sleep Research, of aircrew fatigue algorithms for military air operations
- ◆ Anthropometry for RAAF aircraft and aircrew
- ◆ Evaluation of new helmets (HGU-56/P) and hearing protection equipment (CEP) for Army rotary wing operations
- ◆ Oxygen equipment for passengers in ADF aircraft
- ◆ Smoke protection for Orion personnel
- ◆ Investigation, in conjunction with the Flying Clothing Steering Committee, of extreme cold weather clothing for ADF aircrew

THE MOTTO of the Institute of Aviation Medicine (AVMED) is *Salus per Scientiam* ("Safety through Knowledge"). AVMED supports flying safety via research, training and policy development work. It is one of the smallest units in the Royal Australian Air Force, but its services are extended to the entire Australian Defence Force.

AVMED answers to the Air Training Wing of RAAF Headquarters Training Command and is a lodger unit on RAAF Base Edinburgh. AVMED is currently staffed by a mixture of uniformed (RAAF and Army) and civilian personnel bringing with them diverse skills in aviation medicine, human factors, and life support.

AVMED moved to their new facilities at Edinburgh in 1995 after 35 years service at RAAF Base Point Cook, near Melbourne in Victoria. For its services to the country, AVMED was awarded the Governor-General's Banner in February 1999.

If you are interested in visiting AVMED and seeing what it does, please contact the Institute on (08) 8393 3162.

A typical chamber run underway at the Institute of Aviation Medicine. The instructor in the foreground is Warrant Officer Peter Kaak, an aviation physiology training officer and C-130 loadmaster.

