



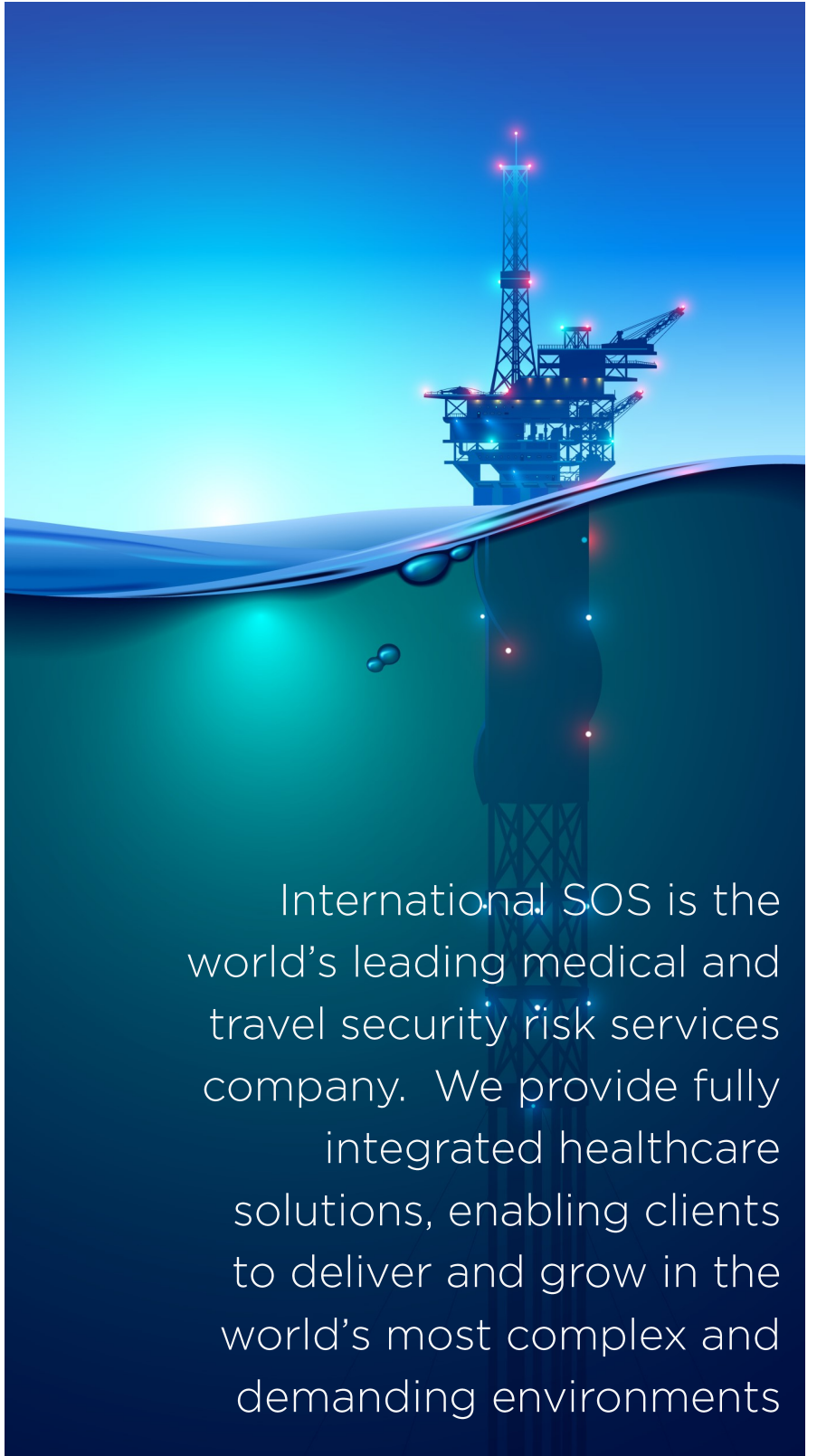
# Offshore Medic Qualification Required Competence Outputs

Offshore medics will study and be examined in the subjects required for the offshore first-aider's training course but in greater depth than is required for offshore first-aiders.

On completion of their training, successful candidates should be able to demonstrate the following competencies:

- communicate effectively with shore-based medical services and apply such care or treatment as they direct;
- cooperate with and provide treatment in accordance with the directions of a medical practitioner in circumstances where it is not practicable or necessary for the latter to attend a patient offshore;
- give appropriate treatment to anyone suffering from illness or injury offshore, where such illness or injury does not require skilled specialist medical attention or, until skilled specialist medical attention becomes available, equipping them to:
  - take a concise, accurate history of the patient's symptoms;
  - perform a clinical examination;
  - undertake general observations of a patient's physical state (eg pulse, temperature, respiration, blood pressure);
  - have knowledge of the availability of other medical, mobile or shore-based services and communicate effectively relevant medical information;
  - understand and comply with the medical advice and directions of a medical practitioner when received;
  - give basic bedside care to ill and injured people;
  - undertake treatment for minor ailments and injuries, and supervise the continuation of such treatment;
  - initiate appropriate first-aid measures in cases of serious injury or illness;
  - apply appropriate resuscitation measures and initial treatment in cases of unconsciousness or critical illness;
  - in an emergency, carry out procedures such as intravenous therapy, advanced airway management complying with current Resuscitation Council (UK) guidelines (eg laryngeal mask, endotracheal intubation) and urinary bladder catheterisation (where practicable, only after consultation with, and on the directions of, a suitably qualified medical practitioner);
  - initiate procedures designed to stabilise a patient's medical condition and maintain vital functions;
  - prepare patients for transport ashore by air or sea, give appropriate information to the cabin crew regarding the patient's condition and, if necessary, be prepared to accompany the patient ashore;

- recognise common infectious conditions and implement appropriate methods for isolation and treatment;
  - recognise common dental conditions, including indications for the emergency use of analgesics;
  - recognise common psychological and psychiatric conditions;
  - know the effects and side-effects of available drugs and the indications and contra-indications for their use in treatment;
  - be aware of the hazards of diving and understand the correct procedures for treating medical conditions associated with diving.
- maintain adequate medical records of illness and injury and write brief reports and letters of referral about patients (with due regard for confidentiality);
  - provide simple advice to offshore personnel regarding their health problems, indicating methods of improving general health (including stress-related issues) and welfare;
  - understand food and general hygiene requirements offshore and be able to recommend improvements where required;
  - know the occupational and toxicological hazards offshore and, so far as possible and in conjunction with other personnel, give advice as to how health risks arising from these hazards may be minimised;
  - be capable of giving advice on the first-aid arrangements for visits to normally unattended installations;
  - maintain the sick bay, its equipment and medical stores, order supplies and keep records of materials and drug usage;
  - be familiar with the offshore medic's role in emergency response plans;
  - know the statutory requirements affecting the offshore medic's role;
  - recognise communicable (including sexually-transmitted) diseases;
  - recognise common eye conditions;
  - recognise common ear conditions;
  - recognise common skin conditions;
  - have a background knowledge of the offshore industry and offshore activities.



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