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## **NEW MEDICAL EVACUATION SERVICE ADDRESSES TRAVELERS' NEEDS IN TODAY'S UNCERTAIN WORLD**

### *Provides Year-long Benefits for Worldwide Emergency Medical Transportation*

RICHMOND, VA, May 2, 2006 - According to the Centers for Disease Control, injuries account for a substantial proportion of evacuations of tourists from developing countries, however most U.S. healthcare policies provide little or no coverage for medical evacuation. In fact, Medicare does not provide any coverage for its members traveling outside the U.S. As a result, Access America is introducing Annual Med Evac, which provides worldwide emergency medical transportation benefits for travelers 100 or more miles away from home.

"We developed this plan for frequent business and leisure travelers who are concerned about paying for the high cost of a medical transport out-of-pocket," said Beth Godlin, Executive Vice President of Access America, a leading travel insurance and assistance provider. "We often see cases where there is no local facility to meet patients' needs, so they are evacuated to a facility where they can get proper care. Without coverage, travelers would have to pay for the cost of a transport with their own funds, which can be financially devastating, depending on the distance and type of medical equipment and personnel needed for an evacuation.

### **Three Levels of Coverage**

There are three plans that vary by length of travel, starting at \$185. The Standard Plan provides benefits for people whose trips outside the U.S. typically last up to 3 months. The Extended Stay plans provide benefits for continuous travel of 6 or 12 months. Plans are available for single travelers and families, which includes the member, their spouse and dependent children.

Access America Annual Med Evac offers the following benefits:

- Emergency medical transportation benefits up to \$1 million
- 24-hour medical and travel assistance services via our multilingual hotline
- Concierge services
- Access to online destination information and travel advisories

- No pre-existing condition exclusion

Individuals may purchase the Annual Med Evac product at [www.accessamerica.com](http://www.accessamerica.com), by calling 1-866-864-2855 or through their travel agent. Business partners interested in offering this product may contact Access America at 804-673-1581.

#### **About Access America**

Access America is a division and service mark of World Access Service Corp. and provides travel insurance and assistance to millions of travelers each year. As a member of the Mondial Assistance Group, an international leader in travel insurance and assistance with operations centers in 28 countries, Access America delivers customized solutions that enhance value for travelers, travel agents, travel suppliers, credit card companies and more. Visit [www.accessamerica.com](http://www.accessamerica.com).

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