

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

We refer to the letter to the Editor from Dr. S Arulkumaran in the Medical Journal Malaysia Vol. 42 No. 2 June 1987 regarding an incident where emergency medical treatment was necessary for a passenger on board our flight.

We note Dr. Arulkumaran's observations and suggestions and would like to thank him for his assistance in rendering medical treatment to the passenger concerned.

We also note certain interesting points raised by Dr. Arulkumaran which we feel we should clarify. On the subject of the "Captain's Bag" which according to Dr. Arulkumaran none of his medical colleagues are aware of, it is not surprising, as the "Captain's Bag" is generally known as the "Physician's Kit". The "Captain's Bag" was probably the terminology used by the Swedish nurses assisting in that particular incident. It is not a term used by Malaysia Airlines.

We would also like to take this opportunity to advise on the type of medical equipment carried on Malaysian Airlines flights.

All Malaysia Airlines aircraft carry a First Aid kit containing simple items like bandages, antiseptics and panadol. However, on our widebody aircraft, we also carry a "Physician's Kit" which contains a stethoscope, syringes and various drugs that are used only by medical doctors. In addition our aircraft carries equipment used to support breathing ("Ambu Bag" as mentioned in the letter). We enclose copies of the items contained in our First Aid Kit and Physician's Kit for your reference and information.

Regarding Dr. Arulkumaran's concern that the bag may not be made available to the attending doctor, we would like to assure him that the crew are aware of the Physician's Kit, where it is kept and that it would be made available to the doctor on his/her request.

We trust the information provided above would be useful to your readers. Should you need any further information or clarification, we would be very pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely,

Siew Yong Gnanalingam (Mrs)  
*PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER*  
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