

	Safety	Helicopter Inadvertent IMC Procedures
	Rotor Wing	
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Purpose: To ensure best outcome in the unlikely event of a pilot encountering inadvertent instrument meteorological conditions or IMC.

Procedure: When operating in conditions that are conducive to IIMC (inadvertent instrument meteorological conditions) or marginal VFR, each pilot should set up the cockpit to best prepare for an IMC encounter. The procedure should be as follows:

Comm radio #1	Set to local ATC or approach/center frequency (use approach/center frequency in standby as well).
Comm radio #2	Set to dispatch or other appropriate frequency.
Nav radio #1	Set to most appropriate/closest VOR frequency to aid in positional awareness.
Nav radio #2	Set to VOR frequency, either closes or next closest for better positional awareness from two difference nav aids.
Radar ALT	Set to 1000'

In the event the pilot should encounter inadvertent IMC conditions, the following actions should be followed regarding controlling the helicopter. Note: while in VFR conditions, the pilot should be aware of terrain features and elevations in the immediate area so as to pick the best heading for climb.

Perform the three “C’s”

Control Go wings level and pitch attitude neutral, then

Climb Use climb power (max contin torque or TOT, whichever occurs first), obtain Vy speed of 60 knots IAS and then turn to a heading of least terrain. To minimize workload, use the autopilot for these functions. If unsure of terrain, consider a continuous 360 degree climbing turn, however, you may only perform this while coupled to autopilot.

Communicate Communicate situation with appropriate ATC facility and request radar vectors and instrument approach to the nearest airport. Declaration of an emergency situation should be considered under these circumstances.

Comments: Initial training in IIMC Recovery Procedures is addressed during new hire pilot ground school and flight training. Recurrent training is conducted semi-annually. All training completed is documented in pilot training records.

Related Policies: CAMTS 12.04.04
CAMTS 11.00.00