Medical Considerations About Diving in Expeditions in High Altitudes

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The main problem in high altitude diving expeditions is the decompression and its calculation and operational aspects. All the divers must know the tables currently used.
A plan to be used in an emergency situation including situations outside the water is a must. The amount of available oxygen, the quality of medical services near the exploration site and the possibility of transporting medical equipments and victims by air are crucial issues. The influence of the hyperbaric inspired oxygen in the human beings must also be explored.
During the Expedition Atahualpa 2000 we tried to find if there were the incidence of mountain sickness in the diving group and specific date was collected. The psychological changes in humans during this kind of activity are still in study and the need of further medical researches must be always considered.