Facilities and Features

Hospital
The hospital covers most of the original rail deck – approximately 1,200 square meters. It is divided into quadrants containing supply/services, five operating theaters, a four-bed recovery area, intensive care for up to five individuals and seventy-five ward beds. The volunteer crew provides free surgical procedures onboard including cataract removal, lens implants, tumor removal, cleft- lip and palate repair, orthopedics (clubfoot and bowed legs), women's health (including obstetric fistula repair), reconstructive plastic and general surgeries as well as some ambulatory day surgery procedures. The hospital contains a CT Scanner, X-ray and laboratory services which support the surgical services.

Medical Capacity (Training and Infrastructure Development)
The Africa Mercy also serves as a platform to deliver high-quality training to local healthcare providers as a sustainable means of bolstering a country's healthcare system. Training interventions ensure that healthcare providers use proper practices to reduce the risk of lengthy hospital stays, mishaps and hospital-acquired infections. These training courses are not only focused on surgical care (Safe Anesthesia Administration and Care, WHO Surgical Safety Checklist, Primary Trauma Care and Essential Surgical Skills) but also various paramedical healthcare services (e.g., Biomed, Sterilization), and a nutritional agriculture training program. When appropriate, Mercy Ships may bolster these training efforts with equipment donations and/or facility renovations to ensure the trainees are as effective as possible.

Safety & Security
The vessel is fitted with an automatic sprinkler system throughout the accommodation and hospital areas. An addressable smoke detector system pinpoints the exact location of the source of any potential fire. Machinery spaces are covered by a CO₂ gas flooding system as well as a “Hi Fog” system, which can be very effective in controlling localized fires in the machinery space. Gurkha security guards man the gangway 24 hours a day with metal detectors and other screening devices. They are backed up by CCTV around the vessel, while critical spaces such as the bridge and engine room remain locked at all times.

Crew and Accommodation
The Africa Mercy has meeting and work spaces as well as berths for an average crew of 400 from up to 60 nations serving onboard at any given time. The 16,572-ton vessel has had over 13,000 crew from over 90 countries serve onboard since its deployment in 2007. The 481 berths include 24 family cabins, 29 cabins for couples, and shared and single cabins for individual occupants.