

Climbing through FL310 to our flight planned cruise altitude, we unexpectedly encountered Moderate to Severe clear air turbulence. As the clear air turbulence approached Severe intensity, the autopilot was intentionally disengaged to maintain a constant and stable pitch to prevent an airframe overspeed from erratic autopilot inputs. The clear air turbulence subsided after one and a half minutes and no exceedances were noted. The weather was day VMC, there was no convective weather in the area, and there were no PIREPS or forecasts for turbulence.

The seat belt sign was on during the event. After we returned back to smooth air, we were informed that no passengers were injured, but several Flight Attendants were injured. The Physician on Call was contacted via HF radio, and medication was recommended. In order to minimize arrival and taxi delays at MIA, priority handling was requested on initial contact with Miami Center. We landed uneventfully.

Captain Robert Olson