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NASA Policy Directive

NPD 8900.1G
Effective Date: May 31, 2002
Expiration Date: May 31, 2017**COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY**[Printable Format \(PDF\)](#)

Request Notification of Change (NASA Only)

Subject: MEDICAL OPERATIONS RESPONSIBILITIES IN SUPPORT OF HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT PROGRAMS (Revalidated with change 1 dated 8/25/12)**Responsible Office: Office of the Chief Health & Medical Officer**

Change History

Chg#	Date	Description/Comments
1	08/25/2012	Update to comply with 1400 Compliance, with administrative changes, title changes, update applicable documents, and added Attachment A for references

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1. POLICY

The Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer (OCHMO) shall provide and maintain the necessary medical systems to support medical operations for human space flight. OCHMO will accomplish this task through interaction with the Human Exploration and Operations Mission Directorate (HEOMD) which will provide and maintain the necessary medical systems to support medical operations for human space flight and produce and deliver health-related research products and deliverables.

2. APPLICABILITY

a. This NPD is applicable to NASA Headquarters and all NASA Centers, including Component Facilities and Technical and Service Support Centers. This language applies to Jet Propulsion Laboratory, a Federally Funded Research and Development Center, and other contractors to the extent specified or referenced in the appropriate contracts or agreements.

b. In this NPD "shall" denotes a mandatory requirement, "may" or "can" denotes a discretionary privilege or permission, "should" denotes a good practice, and "will" denotes an expected outcome.

3. AUTHORITY

- a. 51 U.S.C. 20113(a) of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended.
- b. NPD 1000.0, NASA Governance and Strategic Management Handbook.
- c. NPD 1000.3, The NASA Organization.

4. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS AND FORMS

- a. NPD 7100.8C, Protection of Human Research Subjects.
- b. NASA-STD-3001, NASA Space Flight Human System Standard, Volume 1 - Crew Health.
- c. NASA-STD-3001, NASA Space Flight Human System Standard, Volume 2 - Human Factors, Habitability and Environmental Health.
- d. OCHMO 80771201MED, NASA Crewmembers Medical Standards, Volume 1 - Selection and Periodic Certification.

5. RESPONSIBILITY

- a. The HEOMD has overall responsibility for planning, coordinating, and implementing all human space flight activities and along with other Offices, is responsible for producing research products to protect crew health and enhance performance. The Johnson Space Center (JSC) will be responsible for management of all NASA space medical activities in support of human space flight. Other NASA Centers, as well as external agencies participating in human space flight activities, is responsible for reporting to JSC for direct mission-related medical activities.
- b. The Associate Administrator (AA) for HEOMD is responsible for designating a senior manager for space crew health and safety. This individual will be responsible for the following:
 - (1) Recommending requirements for space medicine and countermeasures and propose milestones for deliverables.
 - (2) Advocating with the AA for HEOMD for on-orbit resources necessary to meet these milestones.
 - (3) Recommending policies applicable to crew health and safety.
 - (4) Reviewing space medicine operations and results on a periodic basis.
 - (5) Advising the AA for HEOMD on crew health and safety issues.
 - (6) Overseeing the implementation of health-related research products and deliverables once approved.
- c. The OCHMO shall:
 - (1) Formulate policies and Agency level standards for, and providing oversight of, activities related to crew health, medical operations, and the Medical Policy Board.
 - (2) Review progress in HEOMD Health and Medical practices.
 - (3) Chairing the Medical Policy Board.
 - (4) Reviewing and approving the medical requirements and research products readiness for operational implementation.
 - (5) Reviewing and concurring on all implementing procedures and guidelines for this NPD and subsequent changes.
 - (6) Transmitting medical policies and agreements related to human space flight to the AA for HEOMD.
 - (7) Serving as the Agency Health and Medical Technical Authority.
- d. Each NASA Center Director involved in the human space flight programs, is responsible for the following:
 - (1) Developing a medical disaster plan to fit unique technical operations, and preparing an emergency preparedness plan for the Center's Human Space Flight Program Operations.
 - (2) Ensuring, if appropriate to the Center's role and responsibilities in human space flight, that the prime objectives of medical activities in support of ground-based and in-flight tests, checkouts, and simulations are met. Specifically, these objectives are as follows:
 - (a) To verify that human support equipment fulfills design, quality, and safety requirements needed for the useful and efficient functioning of individuals in both ground-based and in-flight environments.
 - (b) To ensure that crewmember health is optimized to maximize crewmember performance during flight.
 - (c) To establish the requirements for, and collaborate with, the HEOMD to monitor the progress of health and

medical research to support crew health.

(d) To ensure that environmental, medical, and safety reviews of equipment and biomedical research protocols are in accordance with the JSC Institutional Review Board (IRB) standards, including policies and procedures outlined in NPD 7100.8, Protection of Human Research Subjects.

(e) To conduct hardware tests, verifications, and procedural simulations, as necessary, of any equipment prior to testing on humans.

6. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

None.

7. MEASUREMENT/VERIFICATION

An annual report will be issued by medical operations at JSC to the CHMO, indicating the number of medical events affecting space flight crewmembers that result in adverse mission impact. The lower the number of medical events affecting space flight crewmembers that result in adverse mission impact, the greater the success of the program.

8. CANCELLATION

NPD 8900.1G, Medical Operations Responsibilities in Support of Human Space Flight programs, dated May 31, 2002.

Revalidated August 25, 2012, with change 1

**original signed by: /s/ Sean O'Keefe
Administrator**

ATTACHMENT A: REFERENCES

A.1 NPD 1800.2, NASA Occupational Health Program.

A.2 NPD 8900.5, NASA Health and Medical Policy for Human Space Exploration.

A.3 NPR 1441.1, NASA Records Retention Schedules.

A.4 NPR 8900.1, NASA Health and Medical Requirements for Human Space Exploration.

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None.

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