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TE! 137	FX 2010	EV 12/21/2012
Fiscal Year:	FY 2010 Task Last Updated:	FY 12/21/2010
PI Name:	Johnston, Smith M.D.	
Project Title:	Develop and Implement Operational Ground Testing Protocols to Individualize Astronaut and Individual Effects	Sleep Medication Efficacy
Division Name:	Human Research	
Program/Discipline:	HUMAN RESEARCH	
Program/Discipline Element/Subdiscipline:	HUMAN RESEARCHBehavior and performance	
Joint Agency Name:	TechPort:	Yes
Human Research Program Elements:	(1) BHP :Behavioral Health & Performance (archival in 2017)	
Human Research Program Risks:	(1) BMed :Risk of Adverse Cognitive or Behavioral Conditions and Psychiatric Disorders	
Space Biology Element:	None	
Space Biology Cross-Element Discipline:	None	
Space Biology Special Category:	None	
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PI Organization Type:	NASA CENTER Phone:	(281) 483-0453
Organization Name:	NASA Johnson Space Center	
PI Address 1:	Flight Surgeon	
PI Address 2:	Space Medicine	
PI Web Page:		
City:	Houston State:	TX
Zip Code:	77058 Congressional District:	22
Comments:		
Project Type:	GROUND Solicitation / Funding Source:	Directed Research
Start Date:	03/18/2009 End Date:	01/21/2010
No. of Post Docs:	No. of PhD Degrees:	
No. of PhD Candidates:	No. of Master' Degrees:	
No. of Master's Candidates:	No. of Bachelor's Degrees:	
No. of Bachelor's Candidates:	Monitoring Center:	NASA JSC
Contact Monitor:	Shea, Camile Contact Phone:	281-244-2017
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Flight Program:		
Flight Assignment:		
Key Personnel Changes/Previous PI:		
COI Name (Institution):	Dinges, David (University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine) Barger, Laura (Harvard Medical School) Czeisler, Chuck (Harvard Medical School) Beven, Gary (NASA Johnson Space Center) Sipes, Walter (NASA Johnson Space Center)	
Grant/Contract No.:	Directed Research	
Performance Goal No.:		
Performance Goal Text:		

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Task Description:

The proposed pilot study provides an opportunity to test the feasibility of a protocol to use with astronauts and other NASA personnel (e.g., flight surgeons, flight directors, and flight controllers) to assess potential carry over effects from sleep medications used during spaceflight operations (including overseas training periods), and following an abrupt awakening from sleep. This information is critically needed to establish optimal and individually tailored usage of sleep medications by key personnel relative to operational demands. The proposed protocol is a feasibility study that will determine the percentage change in sleep inertia from using a medication compared to normal sleep inertia. Subject participants will each choose a hypnotic as their preferred sleep aid; once an appropriate medication is identified, each subject volunteer, in a controlled setting in the Crew Quarters Facility at Johnson Space Center (JSC), will undergo several awakenings during two nights of sleep (one night with the medication, another night with a placebo). Cognitive performance, using a set of three measures, will be evaluated at each awakening. This process will occur under the direction of the study Principal Investigator, a NASA Flight Surgeon.

Rationale for HRP Directed Research:

Research Impact/Earth Benefits:

Task Progress:

The study protocol was successfully pilot tested with N=7 subjects (6 NASA flight surgeons and 1 Behavioral Health and Performance element Operations professional) as subjects from March through June, 2009. The pilot study results supported the scientific feasibility of conducting a randomized, double-blind, placebo controlled study of sleep medication effects on alarm-based awakenings. Preliminary analysis from the pilot study indicated differences in performance upon abrupt awakening between the sleep medication and placebo conditions. Thus, the pilot data also support the likelihood of new scientific and clinical insights from the proposed Phase II studies with NASA astronauts.

Bibliography Type:

Description: (Last Updated: 04/09/2019)