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Fiscal Year:	FY 2007	Task Last Updated:	FY 09/12/2013
PI Name:	Platts, Steven H. Ph.D.		
Project Title:	Evaluation of Compression Garments as Countermeas	ures to Orthostatic Intolerance	
Division Name:	Human Research		
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Program/Discipline Element/Subdiscipline:	HUMAN RESEARCHBiomedical countermeasures		
Joint Agency Name:		TechPort:	Yes
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Space Biology Cross-Element Discipline:	None		
Space Biology Special Category:	None		
PI Email:	steven.platts-1@nasa.gov	Fax:	FY 281-244-5090
PI Organization Type:	NASA CENTER	Phone:	281-483-8177
Organization Name:	NASA Johnson Space Center		
PI Address 1:	Cardiovascular Laboratory		
PI Address 2:	Biomedical Research and Environmental Sciences Div	vision	
PI Web Page:			
City:	Houston	State:	TX
Zip Code:	77058	Congressional District:	36
Comments:			
Project Type:	GROUND	Solicitation / Funding Source:	Directed Research
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No. of PhD Candidates:		No. of Master' Degrees:	
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Contact Monitor:	Villarreal, Jennifer	Contact Phone:	281-483-7306
Contact Email:	jennifer.v311larreal@nasa.gov		
Flight Program:			
Flight Assignment:			
Key Personnel Changes/Previous PI:			
COI Name (Institution):	Stenger, Michael (Wyle Laboratories, Inc./NASA John Martin, David (Wyle Laboratories, Inc./NASA John Richardson, Letetia Ph.D. (Wyle Laboratories, Inc./N	son Space Center)	
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	Previous work in our laboratory demonstrated that the NASA Anti-Gravity Suit and the Russian Kentavr compression garment were effective countermeasures to orthostatic intolerance in subjects whose plasma volume was reduced pharmacologically to a similar degree as experienced by astronauts. While these compression garments were effective in these conditions, two observations led to the evaluation of other compression garments/conditions. First, although the AGS and Kentavr appeared to be equally effective in the initial study, the level of compression provided by the two garments were very different. The Kentavr provided compression of ~30 mmHg but the AGS was inflated to a pressure of ~78 mmHg. Thus, one objective of this study was to determine whether the AGS could provide a similar level of protection as the Kentavr when the AGS was inflated to provide a similar level of compression (~26 mmHg). Second, astronauts have reported uncomfortable levels of abdominal compression while using the AGS, which may be		

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particularly problematic after completing the pre-landing fluid loading protocol. Therefore, the second objective of this study was to determine the efficacy of a thigh-high compression garment, which might be more effective than either the AGS or the Kentavr because it provided a gradient compression to promote venous return. Both the AGS and Kentavr apply approximately the same level of compression across the entire length of the garment, but a commercially-available garment provides the highest pressure at the ankle, and the pressure decreases up the leg to the top of the thigh. Both garments were evaluated in normal healthy subjects who were hypovolemic due to the infusion of furosemide (Lasix), as has been previously used in our laboratory. The specific aims of this study were:

- 1. Evaluate the effectiveness of thigh-high compression garments to prevent orthostatic intolerance in hypovolemic subjects.
- 2. Evaluate the effectiveness of the Anti-Gravity Suit (AGS) at 1 "click" (0.5 psi) to prevent orthostatic intolerance in hypovolemic subjects.
- 3. Compare the effectiveness of the two garments which provide similar average levels of compression across their respective lengths but provide different levels of coverage (thigh-high vs. abdomen-high).

Rationale for HRP Directed Research:

Research Impact/Earth Benefits:

New project for FY2007.

Task Progress:

[Ed. note 9/12/2013: added to Task Book when received information from HRP]

Bibliography Type:

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