Access to Archived Astronaut Data for Human Research Program Researchers: Update on Progress and Process Improvements

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ABSTRACT

Since the 2010 NASA directive to make the Life Sciences Data Archive (LSDA) and Lifetime Surveillance of Astronaut Health (LSAH) data archives more accessible by the research and operational communities, demand for astronaut medical data has increased greatly. LSAH and LSDA personnel are working with Human Research Program on many fronts to improve data access and decrease lead time for release of data. Some examples include the following:

- Feasibility reviews for NASA Research Announcement (NRA) data mining proposals
- Improved communication, support for researchers, and process improvements for retrospective Institutional Review Board (IRB) protocols
- Supplemental data sharing for flight investigators versus purely retrospective studies
- Work with the Multilateral Human Research Panel for Exploration (MHRPE) to develop acceptable
 data sharing and crew consent processes and to organize inter-agency data coordinators to facilitate
 requests for international crewmember data.

Current metrics on data requests crew consenting will be presented, along with limitations on contacting crew to obtain consent. Categories of medical monitoring data available for request will be presented as well as flow diagrams detailing data request processing and approval steps.