Lunar Analog
Session Outline
HHC Infrastructure Gaps

Gaps: Can partial gravity be simulated on Earth?
How does 1/6-g or 3/8-g influence CM?

Monitoring Bone Health by DLS in Lunar Missions (Cavanagh)

Smart Pill (Putcha NRA)

CV Alterations during Lunar Missions* (Platts NRA)

Lunar EVA Study* (Directed Study)

Lunar Analog development* (Directed Study)

Thermoregulation and CV Response during Lunar Missions (Keller NRA)

Integrated Musculoskeletal CM for Lunar Missions (Lang)
Concept

Development of a ground-based lunar analog is necessary as NASA prepares to return to the Moon.

Relied on Digital Astronaut to:

- Validate the angle needed for expected changes in bone
  - 9.5° head up tilt
- Determine what adjustments are required to appropriately model predicted plasma volume changes
  - Compression stockings
Digital Astronaut
Bed Design
Validation of 9.5° Head Up Tilt

- Demonstrate that 9.5° head up tilt provides 1/6 g in the standing position
Lunar Analog Feasibility Study

- Initial study to assess subject comfort and tolerance of the lunar bed and stockings

  - Subjects
    - 5 Cleveland Clinic
    - 3 JSC/UTMB

  - 11-day study
    - 3 days pre-bed rest with
    - 6 days in bed
    - 2 days post bed rest rehabilitation
Subjects provided isocaloric diet

Alternated between periods of sitting and standing
  - 65% sitting
  - 35% standing

Subjects tolerated the lunar bed well.
Lunar Analog Feasibility Study

- **Jobst® Stocking Evaluation** – a number of different stocking configurations were tested to determine optimal comfort for subjects.

  - Thigh high, off the shelf, closed toe 30-40 mmHg, (~18 mmHg ave)
  - Thigh high, custom fit, closed toe, 40 mmHg (~18 mmHg ave)
  - Thigh high, custom fit, Elvarex fabric, open toe, 36-46 mmHg (~18 mmHg ave)
Lunar Analog Feasibility Study

- **Knee High Stockings**
  - Knee high, custom fit, Elvarex fabric, open toe, 36-46 mmHg (~18 mmHg ave)

- **All stocking configurations** were evaluated for
  - foot and toe numbness, tingling and pain
  - Knee irritation and pain

- **Best combination of characteristics**
  - Knee high, custom fit, Elvarex fabric, closed toe, 25-32 mmHg (~12 mmHg ave)
Preliminary Data

- Data from 1^{st} 5 subjects at Cleveland Clinic
- Predicted 6% PV loss on moon
- 10° HUT w/o stockings predicts PV gain (left)
- 10° HUT w/ stockings predicts PV loss (right)
- Actual loss during LAFS 13%.
- Due to:
  - Lack of Diet Stabilization?
  - Magnitude of Compression?
Selection of stockings

Knee high (below the knee) compression stockings are frequently prescribed to prevent DVT. One randomized trial with 223 subjects showed a 10% rate of asymptomatic DVT in control subjects and 0 cases of DVT following long-haul airflights.


Several meta-analyses have been conducted showing the efficacy of compression stockings for preventing DVT in a number of different clinical scenarios. When knee high were compared to thigh high, a conclusion could not be drawn on which were superior at preventing DVT due to the low numbers, but one review recommends knee high due to the greater comfort.

Pre-Pilot Study

- **Validation of Lunar bed rest model for the cardiovascular system**
  - Knee high, custom fit, Elvarex fabric, closed toe, 25-32 mmHg (~12 mmHg ave)
  - 8 subjects
  - 14-day pre-bed rest diet stabilization
  - 6 days 9.5° head up tilt bed rest
  - 2 days post bed rest rehabilitation
  - Plasma Volume measures to accurately assess magnitude and direction
Lunar Analog Pilot Study

- Examination of the Lunar bed rest model over long-duration
  - 14 pre-bed rest diet stabilization
  - 60 days 9.5° head up tilt bed rest
  - 14 days post bed rest rehabilitation
  - Standard conditions
  - Standard measures
  - Model verification using Digital Astronaut
Bed Design for Lunar Analog Pilot

Adjustable Foot Support
Slider Plate Assembly

Floor-mounted force plate serves as a seat.

Scissor jack to adjust force plate operated by subject