



# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter April 2003

◆ **Sudden Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS):** The OCHMO has issued interim guidance on managing travelers and exposure to SARS. The memo can be found at: <http://ohp.nasa.gov/alerts/sars1.htm>. For the latest information on SARS visit the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/sars/index.htm> or WHO website at: <http://www.who.int/csr/en/>.

◆ **NASA EH Presentations on OSHA VPP:** The May 16<sup>th</sup> EH ViTS, 2:00-3:00 EST, will focus on VPP activity at multiple NASA Centers. The presentations will discuss strategies, OSHA emphasis areas, and other practical information for anyone involved with supporting the VPP effort at their facility and or organization.

◆ **NASA Health Promotion and Wellness Team:** In support of the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter FY 2003 health promotion campaign, The President's Challenge for an Active Lifestyle, three speakers have been scheduled to present in the months of May and June. On May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Dr. Bertice Berry will present on the topic of family involvement in health and fitness. On May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Page Love from the Gatorade Sports Science Institute will discuss nutrition and weight control. And, on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Dr. Kenneth Cooper of The Cooper Institute will discuss fitness and obesity rates. The presentations by Dr. Berry and Page Love will be available on videotape. We are working to provide the Centers with a live feed. All presentations will be held from 11am-12 noon EST.

◆ **NIOSH Continues Effort to Produce Standards for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Agents:** On April 29<sup>th</sup> at an open meeting in Pittsburgh, NIOSH continued conceptual discussions of standards and testing processes for an Escape Respirator standard suitable for respiratory protection against CBRN Agents and reviewed ongoing research to identify simulation materials for use as CBRN test surrogates for respirator research. NIOSH, along with the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command (SBCCOM) and the National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST) presented information to attendees concerning the concept development for the Escape Respirator CBRN standard. You can obtain the latest copy of the Escape Respirator CBRN concept paper, as well as earlier versions of the concept papers used during the standard development effort from the NIOSH National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL) Web site, address: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl>.

◆ **NASA Center Occupational Health Professional Spotlight:** NASA JSC has recently brought on board audiologist *Dr. Dick Danielson* to manage its **Audiology and Hearing Conservation** programs. He will be coordinating an interdisciplinary team effort in hearing loss prevention among ISS and Shuttle flight crew, as well for personnel in JSC's Occupational Health Program. Dr. Danielson recently retired from the U.S. Army and has been a member of several

university faculties and officer in national hearing conservation organizations. He is a great resource in this important area of OH.

◆ **CDC E-mail Update Service:** The CDC Clinician Terrorism and Emergency Response has an E-mail Update Service to provide clinicians with updates about terrorism and other emergency events. New members can register at: [www.bt.cdc.gov/clinicianreg](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/clinicianreg).

◆ **2003 NASA Occupational Health Conference:** The 2003 Conference is scheduled for August 4th to 8th at the Loews Coronado Bay Resort, San Diego, CA. Information on the conference and on-line registration forms can be found at [OH Conference Information page](#). The Conference provides an opportunity for personnel of the multiple disciplines involved in the practice of occupational health at all NASA Centers to exchange scientific and technical data and management experiences. Attendees will hear from experts in various disciplines throughout the week and, most importantly, will have the forum to share both issues and solutions relevant to the physical and mental health of the Agency's workforce.



◆ **IH Gathering at AIHCE:** There will be a formal gathering at the Hyatt Regency Dallas, on May 12, 6:00-8:00 PM.

◆ **OH NASA Center Evaluation Calendar:**

- GFSC – May 20<sup>th</sup> to May 23<sup>rd</sup>

◆ **Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:**

- EH ViTS – May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-3:00 EST
- EH ViTS – June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2:00-3:00 EST
- Health Promotion ViTS-June 16<sup>th</sup> 3:30-4:30 EST

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Send information, comments or questions to:

◆ E-mail - [Bart.Geyer-1@ksc.nasa.gov](mailto:Bart.Geyer-1@ksc.nasa.gov) ◆ Telephone - 321-867-3473

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