



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter June 2006

[newsletter archives](#)



◆ **NASA OH Conference Is Almost Here:** The 2006 NASA OH Conference in historic Charleston, SC, is just around the corner, being held July 17 through July 21. Approximately 100 NASA OH personnel have registered for the Conference. This year's theme "*Occupational Health Response to Catastrophic Events: Disaster Preparedness for a Healthier NASA*" is a very timely subject given the current national attention to issues like the potential spread of a pandemic. The [final agenda](#) with all conference session details and abstracts has been posted to the [conference website](#). All arrangements and logistical details for the meeting are being finalized. If you have any questions about the conference events, hotel reservations, or local area questions, please contact [Sandy Kreer](#) or [Gail Bantugan](#) in the OH Support Office. We have placed a [page](#) of useful information on our website concerning issues like hotel transportation, internet access, hotel parking, etc. Attendees can always change their conference selections from the [registration page](#). We wish all of you a safe trip to historic Charleston, SC!

◆ **New CDC Recommendations on Flu Vaccines:** The CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices has just released the [Recommendations for Prevention and Control](#).

◆ **Electronic Health Record System (EHRS) Update:** NASA's EHRS Project continues to benefit from Indian Health Service's (IHS) experience and guidance because of IHS's attendance and participation in monthly EHRS Steering Committee Meetings held via teleconference. Captain David Taylor, EHR Implementation and Training Coordinator at IHS, recently met with the NASA EHRS Project Team at KSC. Captain Taylor's visit to KSC included a tour of the OH Clinic, which afforded an opportunity to assess clinic processes. The EHRS Project team recently enjoyed the opportunity to be on the agenda of a NASA Chief Information Officer (CIO) Board meeting and presented a briefing to that audience. A number of questions were generated from the CIO Board meeting regarding plans for system architecture, security, as well as intensions for complying with regulations guiding



patient health information privacy and confidentiality. The EHRS Project will also be discussed at the upcoming annual NASA OH Conference. Attendees at the 2006 OH Conference will have an opportunity to attend an EHRS Breakout Session as well as hear presentations from seasoned EHR experts. Finally, as a reminder, please visit the [EHRS webpage](#) for more information and expect to learn more about the EHRS Project in the very near future!



◆ **Congratulations to Holly Hebert:** Holly Hebert from NASA Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF) successfully completed a master's degree in May from Tulane. Her degree is in Public Health, with a concentration in Occupational Health from Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Holly has been working in the MAF clinic as an X-ray tech since 1990 and has transferred to the MAF Safety and Health Office, specifically in Safety Performance Evaluation. Kudos to Holly on this important academic accomplishment!



◆ **New Center OH Staff Changes:** We would like to introduce new OH staff at MAF and Stennis Space Center (SSC). Dr. Troy Hutchinson (Medical Director) has begun working at MAF, and Dr. Juan Blanch (Staff Physician) has started at the SSC clinic, while Sarah Scheuremann, RN is the new injury case manager at SSC. We warmly welcome all new employees supporting the NASA OH Program.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH EDUCATION Seminar Series

◆ **16th International Continuing Health Education Series Continues:** The [16th NASA International Continuing Health Education \(ICHE\) Series](#): "Avian Influenza – a potential pandemic," began on June 2. ICHE S16 started on June 2 and will go on every other Friday (1000-1200 EDT) until August 11, 2006. The Series has been designed to consist of six sessions: 1) Global Concern of Potential Avian 2) Influenza Pandemic, 3) Virulence of Influenza A Viruses in Birds/Other Mammals and Their Transmission to Humans, 4) Guidelines for Protection Against Avian Influenza 5) Clinical Intervention, 6) Management Intervention, and 7) Planning and Preparation.

◆ **NASA OH Center Review Calendar:**

- August 15-18 – Dryden Flight Research Center
- August 21-24 – Ames Research Center

◆ **Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:**

- International Continuing Health Education ViTS – July 14, 10:00-12:00 PM EDT
- July 28, 10:00-12:00 PM EDT
- EH ViTS – July 28, 12:00-12:30 PM EDT

NASA OH Newsletter is published by the NASA OH Support Office

Send information, comments or questions to:

◆ E-mail – Bart.Geyer-1@ksc.nasa.gov ◆ Telephone – 321-867-3473

Find OH Monthly on the Internet at www.ohp.nasa.gov/newsletter/current.pdf