



# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter May 2007

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## ◆ 2007 NASA Occupational Health Conference:



Registration is well underway for the 2007 [NASA Occupational Health Conference](#), with over 70 registered attendees at this time. [Online registration](#) for the conference continues and the latest [agenda](#) is posted. If you have any questions regarding the conference, please contact [Gail Bantugan](#), 321-867-3164.

◆ **Mayo Clinic EmbodyHealth:** OCHMO has set a goal of at least 3,000 completed HRAs. Through January 20, 2008 Mayo Clinic EmbodyHealth is available to all NASA civil servants and contractor OH personnel, and their spouse and children over the age of 18. Latest stats on completed HRAs indicate that, at the least, we need another 1,802 HRAs completed. Each time there is a noticeable spike in the registration pattern we have been able to link it to a Center specific promotional blitz such as a direct email to the civil servant population or eligible OH personnel inviting and encouraging them to complete the HRA.

Registrant type	Registrations
Civil Servant	1,122
Contractor	52
Other	< 50
Spouse, dependent, partner	< 50
Total Completed HRAs	1,198



◆ **2007 HealthierYou Update:** In support of the Health Promotion Campaign, each Center received a shipment of "Your Living Will & Advance Health Directive" pamphlets an excellent tool for planning and communicating end of life wishes to family, physician(s), and loved ones.

◆ **EHR Update:** The Electronic Health Record System (EHR) is arriving at the NASA Data Center (NDC) the first week of June. This exciting accomplishment has been the culmination of three years of collaborative team work between the Indian Health Services, Medsphere, and NASA. The project team will be test piloting the latest beta version 1.1 software of the Indian Health Services' Resource and Patient Management System (RPMS) / EHR. Phase 1 of the project involves loading, configuring, evaluating, and testing the beta software that is being installed at the NDC. During this phase of the project we will also be evaluating and testing the connectivity, network performance, and security controls.

◆ **Prevalence of Stroke Data:** In the MMWR Weekly dated May 18, 2007, CDC [published](#) the first state-based prevalence estimates of stroke indicating that in 2005, substantial differences existed by state/territory, race/ethnicity,

age group, and education level. Stroke death rates are higher in the southeastern United States ( 7/14 NASA Centers are located in this region), compared with other regions of the country; Blacks, American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asians/Pacific Islanders, and Hispanics die from stroke at younger ages than whites.

◆ **OCHMO's Dr. William S. Barry is Retiring:** Dr. William S. Barry of the Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer of NASA is retiring at the end of May. Dr. Barry joined NASA in October 1998, a year after the occupational health functional office moved to Kennedy Space Center. His previous career included being a Navy flight surgeon aboard the aircraft carriers Saratoga and Midway during the Viet Nam war and at the Upjohn Corporation where he was a director of clinical trials for new drugs. He serves as the Medical Review Officer for NASA as well as the medical quality assurance advisor for the NASA Chief Health and Medical Officer. During his NASA tenure he received an award for the Agency on skin cancer prevention awareness. Dr. Barry plans to travel during his retirement.



## ◆ Upcoming Health Promotion ViTS:

The HPW ViTS will be held on Wednesday June 6, at 1PM EDT. Kurt Hobbs will be presenting an analysis of the Mayo Clinic EmbodyHealth HRA data. Dr. Saralyn Mark will discuss the relationship between cervical cancer and HPV in September.

◆ **OSHA Issues Intent to Update Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Standards:** Issued on May 17 these [proposed revisions](#) are a continuation of OSHA's effort to update references to consensus and industry standards located throughout the agency's standards.

◆ **Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) Course**  
**Traveling to Stennis Space Center:** NASA's Stennis Space Center will host an OCHMO sponsored 5 day RSO training course from August 13-17, 2007. If you would like more information about the or are interested in attending please contact [Kurt Geber](#).



◆ **NASA Health Physicists Gather at Annual Meeting:** Health Physicists from around the world will be in Portland, OR for the annual [Health Physics Society Meeting](#) on July 8 -12. Please let [Kurt Geber](#) know if you will be attending this year's meeting as a NASA gathering is being planned during the week.



## ◆ NASA OH Center Review Calendar:

• August 13 - 17 – Marshall Space Flight Center

## ◆ Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:

- Health Promotion & Wellness – June 6, 1:00-2:00 PM EDT
- Fitness Facility Coordinators – June 7, 12:00-1:30 PM EDT
- Environmental Health – June 13, 11:00-12:00 PM EDT
- Health Physics – June 14, 12:00-1:00 PM EDT

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