



◆ 2005 NASA Occupational Health (OH) Conference Update:

All the [detailed information](#) about the conference is now on our website. This includes information about the hotel, tentative agenda, conference registration, poster session and continuing education credit information for all OH disciplines. Each individual guest must make their own hotel reservations by calling the hotel's toll-free number 1-800-455-4770 and identifying yourself with the Group Code of *S06DYNA* to receive the special group rate, no later than **May 12, 2005**. Please note because [Harvey's](#) is sold out it is not able to offer government rate before or after the conference, our website lists a [hotel](#) in Reno that will honor government rate on those dates.

◆ Electronic Health Records System (EHRS) Update:

The EHRS project team focused on system architecture this month with a risk/benefit exercise performed to identify critical functionality. Critical factors identified included timely access to patient records, automation of data entry directly into the patient record, and availability of a patient record at any facility, when required. With the system architecture process accomplished, the project team has begun to move forward on the development of a system security plan to meet all NASA requirements. Although the more clinical aspects of system "look and feel" have not been completed, these recent accomplishments are evidence of the project moving forward. We hope the pace will continue to quicken over the next few months.

◆ National Employee Health and Fitness Day- "Return to Fitness" May 18, 2005:

Many NASA centers participate each year in the National Employee Health and Fitness Day (NEHFD) in May. This spring event is a particularly important time for NASA employees to start or increase their level of fitness in our Return to Fitness program. The Fitness Coordinators at NASA HQ and the Field Centers will be emphasizing the psychological and physical benefits of a regular exercise program. Our emphasis will be NASA- Return to Fitness. Each center will have information on the NEHFD, which is sponsored by the National Association of Health and Fitness (NAHF) of the Network of State and Government Councils, and special events. In addition there will



be several National Employee Health and Fitness Day prizes given out by each center fitness facility. For more details visit the [NAHF](#) site or our [NASA OH website](#).

◆ **Healthier NASA Update:** In preparation for RTF, NASA is once again transforming itself. The process of change is anxiety provoking. Our website includes a [21-item questionnaire](#) designed to assess one's level of stress as well as their ability to manage it effectively. Refer your clients to this readily available self assessment tool.

◆ **US Preventive Task Force Recommendations:** US Preventive Task Force is now recommending that male smokers between the ages of 65 and 75 be screened for abdominal aortic aneurysm. Because abdominal aortic aneurysm is significantly less likely to occur in people who have never smoked, the Task Force made no recommendation either for or against routine screening in this population - men, between the ages of 65 and 75 who have never smoked. Death from an aneurysm is a rare event in women, and most of these deaths occur in women older than 80. The Task Force found no evidence of benefit from routine screening for abdominal aortic aneurysm in all women. The recommendation is published in today's issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*. The [recommendations and materials](#) for clinicians are available on the AHRQ Web site.

◆ **Website Awards:** The [NASA OH website](#) has recently been awarded 2005-2006 American Association of Webmasters Gold Award based on the site's creativity, content, design, scripting, and navigation. In addition, the website also received HonCode Certification by the Health On The Net Foundation which recognizes and certifies authoritative and trustworthy Web-based medical information.

◆ NASA Health Physics (HP) Meeting Update:



All the details are being finalized for the NASA HP meeting June 6-10 in Cocoa Beach, FL. The conference website will be up soon and will include information about registration, hotel, and the tentative agenda for the week.

All NASA Centers and Facilities are encouraged to have representation at the meeting as forthcoming Agency HP related policies will be review and discussed.

◆ **HP ViTS Update:** The next HP ViTS will be on March 10, from 12:30-1:30. Bob Halliburton who is a board certified health physicist, will discuss a topic of interest to everybody: Radiation Detection Instrumentation. Bob designed and managed the DOE's Radiation Standards and Calibration Laboratory located at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

◆ NASA OH Center Review Calendar:

- April 11 – 15 – Goddard Space Flight Center
- April 18 – 20 – Wallops Flight Facility

◆ Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:

- Health Promotion ViTS – March 3, 1:30-3:00 PM EST
- Health Physics ViTS – March 10, 12:30-1:30 PM EST
- EH Monthly ViTS – March 16, 11:00-12:00 PM EST

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