

10/31/1989

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Reply to Attn of: SA/89-079

NOV 01 1989

TO: Distribution

FROM: SA/Chairman, Scientific Merit Review Committee

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Scientific Merit Review Committee (SMRC) meeting on
October 27, 1989.

Members Present

N. M. Cintron
L. F. Dietlein
M. P. Flores
S. M. Fortney (alt.)
S. R. Gonda (alt.)
H. W. Lane
D. R. Morrison (alt.)
M. F. Reschke
V. S. Schneider
G. R. Taylor

Members Absent

J. W. Brown
M. W. Bungo
M. L. Carter
J. B. Charles
J. R. Davis
M. C. Greenisen
J. L. Homick
R. T. Jennings
E. C. Moseley
P. A. Santy

Attendees

D. Calkins
L. Dussack
N. Hunter
R. Kohl
S. McDonald
G. Sandoz
M. Stanford
J. Trebes
G. Young

The Scientific Merit Review Committee (SMRC) meeting was held on October 27, 1989 at 1:00 p.m., Building 1, room 860. New procedures as is customary in AIBS review of proposals were initiated. Primary and secondary reviewers were assigned and grading sheets were used to evaluate each proposal. The agenda consisted of six scheduled proposals for review.

1. Back Pain Pattern in Microgravity - PI: P.C. Wing, M.B., F.R.C.S.
The primary objective of this study is to collect prospective information about the back pain pattern and height increase experienced by astronauts at microgravity in order to determine whether there is a significant relationship between previously documented height increase and reported back pain. This proposal was **DISAPPROVED**. Reasons for the disapproval will be forwarded to the PI.

2. Cardiovascular Responses to Lower Body Negative Pressure Following Space Flight - PI: S. M. Fortney, Ph.D. This proposal plans to reintroduce LBNP testing (and continue the operational stand test) before and immediately following shuttle flights of extended durations to determine whether additional countermeasures for orthostatic intolerance are required during longer shuttle flights. The proposal was **APPROVED** pending incorporation of recommended changes to the proposal.
3. Computer-Assisted Analysis of Human Chromosome Aberrations - PI: G. R. Taylor, Ph.D. The hypotheses will test the effect of small amounts of heavy ion radiation on the human body which would be determined by computer assisted chromosome aberration analysis. The proposal was **APPROVED** pending incorporation of recommended changes to the proposal.
4. Immune Dysfunction - PI: G. R. Taylor, Ph.D. This study would evaluate the immunological parameters of returning space fliers under "normal" conditions prior to launch, just before the end of a flight and immediately after return to earth. The proposal was **APPROVED** pending incorporation of recommended changes to the proposal.
5. Pharmacological Characterization of the Anti-Motion Sickness Properties of Doxepin in Man - PI: R. L. Kohl, Ph.D. The hypothesis of this study is that doxepin is an effective antimotion sickness drug superior to scopolamine plus amphetamine because of long duration of action and operationally minimal side effects. This proposal was **APPROVED** pending recommended changes to the proposal.
6. Vasopressinergic Drugs: Specific Inhibitors of Motion-Induced Autonomic System Dysfunction and Emesis - PI: R. L. Kohl, Ph.D. This proposal will test the hypothesis that the induction of motion sickness and nausea involves the release of arginine vasopressin (AVP). Objectives include: 1) determination of the relative efficacy of V1 and V2 receptor ligands, agonists and antagonists in the therapeutic treatment or etiology of motion sickness 2) establishment of log dose-response curves and duration of action and 3) assessment of the adequacy of the squirrel monkey model in predicting the efficacy of vasopressinergic drugs in man. This proposal was **APPROVED** pending incorporation of the committee's recommended changes to the proposal.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m. The next meeting of the SMRC has not been scheduled at this time. All committee members will be notified accordingly.


L.F. Dietlein, M.D., Ph.D.