

HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT SYMPOSIUM (B3)
Utilization & Exploitation of Human Spaceflight Systems (3)

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SPACE HEALTH AND AGEING RESEARCH, THE SHARE INITIATIVE

Abstract

The Canadian Space Agency (CSA) and the Institute of Aging of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (IA-CIHR) have signed a ground-breaking agreement to support a long-term relationship between the space health and aging health research. The basis for the collaboration is the “Shared Problem, Open Innovation Model” for research that was developed at CSA. The rationale for this model is simple: Focusing collaborative activities including research, development and technology on known, shared problems will yield solutions quicker. Furthermore, during a time of resource constraints, it makes sense to lever research and technology to be as effective as possible. At a National SHARE (Space Health and Aging REsearch) workshop held in 2012, researchers and partners from both fields were challenged to identify common challenges and mutually beneficial outcomes. Four areas of particular interest were identified: musculo-skeletal issues, neurosciences and cognition, psycho-social issues and cardiovascular issues. To support the community participation, reviews of the space and “aging” literature to illuminate the areas of overlap and shared gaps were produced in each of the four interest areas. CSA and IA-CIHR will continue to work together and would like to share this initiative internationally.