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Author: Mr. Ahmer Raza  
Charles University, Czech Republic

ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPACE PHARMACY COUNCIL TO STANDARDIZE PROFESSIONAL  
REQUIREMENTS SPECIFICALLY TAILORED TO PREPARING PHARMACISTS FOR SPACE  
MISSIONS

**Abstract**

Abstract: Becoming an astronaut is a highly competitive and rigorous process. Currently, there are no specific requirements for pharmacists to work in space. However, to become an astronaut, one must have a degree in a relevant field, such as engineering, physical science, biological science, or mathematics. Astronaut candidates must also have at least three years of related professional experience or 1,000 hours of pilot-in-command time on jet aircraft. They must also pass a rigorous physical and psychological screening process, which includes medical examinations, psychological evaluations, and interviews. While there are no specific requirements for pharmacists to work in space, pharmacists must have a thorough understanding of space medicine, which is the study of medical and health-related issues associated with space travel. This omission poses significant risks to the health and well-being of astronauts/space settlers who rely on medication for various medical conditions and emergencies. It is essential to proactively address this issue by establishing clear guidelines and educational pathways to equip pharmacists with the necessary knowledge and skills for space pharmacy practice. To address this need, the Space Pharmacy Council is a real need of time for the development of professional requirements specifically tailored to preparing pharmacists for space missions, training and a registration process for space pharmacists. This Space Pharmacy Council aims to address the distinctive challenges posed by microgravity and the absence of traditional healthcare infrastructure in space. Its core objectives revolve around standardizing professional requirements specifically tailored to prepare pharmacists for space missions. These standards will cover crucial areas such as microgravity pharmacokinetics, pharmaceutical formulation in space conditions, and emergency medical preparedness. By establishing a standardized curriculum, the council seeks to ensure that pharmacists are well-equipped to navigate the complexities of pharmaceutical management in the unique environment of space. In conclusion, the establishment of a Space Pharmacy Council emerges as a critical initiative to standardize professional requirements for pharmacists engaged in space missions. Through a multifaceted approach encompassing training, research collaboration, networking, and advocacy, the council aspires to pave the way for the seamless integration of pharmacists into the future of human space exploration. Keywords: Space Pharmacy Council, Pharmacist, space medicine