



CENTER FOR
SPACE MEDICINE

SUMMARY

Baylor College of Medicine (BCM) established the Center for Space Medicine (CSM) in 2008 and became the first medical school or university to codify space medicine at the level of an academic center or department.

CSM Mission: To be a world academic leader in space biomedical research, education and aerospace medicine with a focus on translating space advances to benefit health on Earth.

CSM attracts the best minds to work collaboratively and add unique value to the nation's space program and cutting-edge precision medicine.

The center is a recognized leader in exploration medicine and biomedical innovation, and it sustains BCM's #1 ranking in NASA-funded life science R&D for the past two decades.

Twenty faculty members include thought leaders, distinguished physicians, flight surgeons, astronauts, scientists and engineers all working at the frontier of space health science and technology.

CSM faculty were critical to the leadership, growth and success of NASA's National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI, 1997-2017) that transformed nationally integrated, top-tier space life science, technology and education involving >100 institutions across the United States and internationally.

In 2016, CSM was competitively awarded a 12-year NASA cooperative agreement to lead a national Translational Research Institute for Space Health (TRI); major subcontractors are Caltech and MIT.

BCM is ranked as the #1 medical school by *U.S. News and World Report* in 2018 for non-NIH research dollars due largely to the TRI award.

CSM is an academic home to all physician-astronauts and physician-cosmonauts in the world.

Through CSM efforts, BCM is designated by the FAA as a Center of Excellence for Commercial Space Transportation.



CSM faculty member and astronaut Leroy Chiao, PhD, performing an ultrasound exam as commander of the International Space Station. Photo courtesy of NASA.



The CSM Director, Professor Jeffrey P. Sutton, MD, PhD, holds the Friedkin Chair for Research in Sensory System Integration and Space Medicine, which is the only endowed academic chair in space medicine in the world.

BCM has the only four-year Space Medicine Track for undergraduate medical students, with approximately half of the first-year class taking the introductory course; more than 700 students have completed CSM-sponsored electives resulting in MD graduates from the track in every year since 2012.

In 2015, BCM awarded its first PhD degree related directly to space medicine.

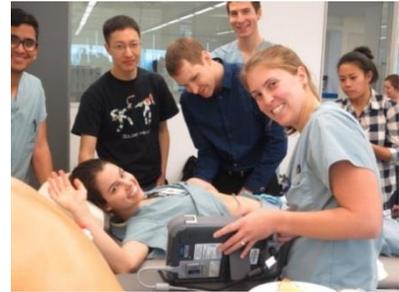
BCM attracts exceptional applicants to its MD program, including some who apply specifically because of CSM and its unique hub for students, residents, fellows, faculty, astronauts and visiting scholars to interact and collaborate on interdisciplinary projects at the interface of space and medicine.

CSM is a leader in aerospace medicine providing clinical resources to NASA and having present or past contracts, awards and faculty consultants to commercial space companies including Virgin Galactic, SpaceX, Blue Origin, Red Bull Stratos and Inspiration Mars.

CSM faculty members perform public outreach, promote STEM activities, serve on national boards, provide congressional testimony and act as ambassadors among spacefaring nations.

Members of CSM have received numerous accolades, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom, membership in the National Academies and the NASA Distinguished Service Medal.

For more information, see <https://www.bcm.edu/centers/space-medicine>



Medical students in the Space Medicine Track conduct research that brings space medicine advances down to Earth.



BCM Center for Space Medicine
6500 Main Street, Suite 910
Houston, TX 77030

(713) 798-7639

Jeffrey P. Sutton, MD, PhD, Founding Director
Julie Do, MBA, Administrator
Nancy Gibbins, Director of Business Operations