



**Johnson Space Center
Policy Directive**

JPD No.: 7170.2D
Effective Date: 04/10/2014
Expiration Date: 04/10/2019

Verify that this is the correct version before use
Compliance is Mandatory

SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT WITH REGARD TO HUMAN RESEARCH

Responsible Office: Human Health and Performance Directorate

Change Record Log

Revision	Date	Originator	Description of Changes
Revision B	09/2003	SA	Revision
Revision C	01/2009	SA	Revision
Revision D	03/2014	SA	Updated and revised to show the change in names and revisions. Clarified the definition of scientific misconduct in 1. Policy. Updated 2. Applicability with required statements. JPD 1382.5 expired and was removed from 4. Applicable Documents and Forms. http://irb.nasa.gov/ is the new manifestation of the JSC CPHS Handbook – JSC 20483 – Redbook.



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1. POLICY

- a. The purpose of this directive is to define the Johnson Space Center (JSC) process for identifying and resolving behavior that would be defined as scientific misconduct in the area of human research by scientific investigators and test subjects.
- b. As applied to this JSC Policy Directive (JPD), scientific misconduct is defined in two ways. The first applies to scientific investigators and is defined as knowing and intentional fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism in proposing, performing, or reporting research results, or engaging in practices that represent a significant departure from accepted practices of the relevant research community, and/or releasing of personal/identifiable research data. The second applies to test subjects and is defined as willfully and knowingly engaging in one or more forms of behavior specifically prohibited in the relevant research proposal or protocol.
- c. This JPD prohibits any scientific investigator funded by NASA under any legal instrument (which include, but are not limited to grants, cooperative agreements, contracts, and Space Act Agreements) from engaging in scientific misconduct. Also, research test subjects are prohibited from engaging in any form of behavior specifically prohibited by the investigator in his/her approved research protocol or requirements that would thwart the objectives of the research or result in spurious or un-interpretable data. Allegations of such behavior are serious matters and will be dealt with expeditiously when identified.

2. APPLICABILITY

This JPD is applicable to the following affected organizations:

- a. All JSC investigative teams involved in human research activities that are funded by NASA or JSC to any degree. Investigative teams include the principal investigator, co-investigators, and collaborators defined by the approved research protocol. This JPD is also applicable to volunteers who are selected as test subject participants in approved research protocols.
- b. Any academic institutions or other non-NASA entity conducting NASA-funded human research.
- c. In this directive, all mandatory actions (i.e., requirements) are denoted by statements containing the term "shall." The terms: "may" or "can" denote discretionary privilege or permission, "should" denotes a good practice and is recommended, but not required, "will" denotes expected outcome, and "are/is" denotes descriptive material.

d. In this directive, all document citations are assumed to be the latest version unless otherwise noted.

3. AUTHORITY

- a. National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958, as amended, Title 51, United States Code, Section 20101 (51 U.S.C. § 5101), et seq.
- b. NASA Policy Directive (NPD) 7100.8, "Protection of Human Research Subjects"
- c. NASA Procedural Requirements (NPR) 7100.1, "Protection of Human Research Subjects"

4. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS AND FORMS

None

5. RESPONSIBILITY

Human Health and Performance Directorate

6. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

None authorized.

7. MEASUREMENT/VERIFICATION

- a. Allegations of investigator or test subject scientific misconduct shall be treated with the utmost sensitivity and shall be brought immediately to the attention of the Chairperson, JSC's Institutional Review Board (IRB) for evaluation. If appropriate, the IRB Chair may consult with other IRB members and/or the JSC Office of Chief Counsel to determine an appropriate disposition of allegations. An appropriate disposition may include an informal investigation into the matter alleged. The IRB may be required to remand the matter to the Office of the NASA Inspector General, depending on the nature of the allegations.
- b. Sanctions or penalties for scientific investigators or test subjects guilty of scientific misconduct shall be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the appropriate level of NASA management. JSC civil servant employees may be subject to appropriate disciplinary or adverse actions up to and including removal from the Federal service. Non-JSC and contractor employee investigators and test subjects, may be subject to similar sanctions as deemed appropriate by their respective employer. In addition, NASA may take additional actions, including severing all relationships with the individual and/or employer under a grant, contract, cooperative agreement or Space Act Agreement.

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8. CANCELLATION

JPD 7170.2C, dated January 30, 2009

Original Signed By:

Ellen Ochoa
Director

Distribution:
JDMS