

Interest Group Perspective: Medical Professionals

Medical professionals are responsible for the health and well-being of the public. This can include making recommendations to provide protection of members of the public from potentially harmful substances, environments or situations.

Use the websites below to gather information that will help you to research and defend a position for the town hall meeting on the question of whether the federal government should limit exposure to cosmic radiation on long-distance flights. Below are some questions to help guide your research.

- What are the potential medical risks of exposure to cosmic radiation?
 - *Are there greater risks of cancer and other illnesses from exposure to cosmic radiation?*
- Are there particular groups that are more at risk from exposure to cosmic radiation?
 - *Are pregnant women or young children, for instance, at a greater risk?*
- What policies would protect members of the public from excessive exposure to cosmic radiation?
 - *What limits should be placed on exposure and upon whom should those limits be placed?*

Web links

(Retrieved Aug. 1, 2019)

- **Exposure to cosmic radiation of British Airways flying crew on ultralonghaul routes – Occupational and Environmental Medicine, U.S. National Library of Medicine**
Information on cosmic radiation exposure during long-distance flight, along with ways to monitor exposure.
- **Galactic radiation exposure during commercial flights: Is there a risk? – Canadian Medical Association Journal, U.S. National Library of Medicine**
Examining the different types of galactic radiation and the risks of exposure during commercial flights.
- **Cosmic Radiation Exposure and Air Travel – Health Canada, Government of Canada**
Potential effects of exposure to cosmic radiation from long-distance flights.
- **Radiation: Quantities and Units of Ionizing Radiation – Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety**
Information on the measurement of and effects of exposure to ionizing radiation.
- **Measures for Managing Exposure to Cosmic Radiation of Employees Working on Board Aircraft – Transport Canada, Government of Canada**
This Commercial and Business Aviation Advisory Circular (CBAAC) recommends that air operators develop a program for managing the cosmic radiation exposure of employees who work on board aircraft.