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HYPERTENSION RISK FROM IRON BRAKE PARTICULATE MATTER

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Of 12 moon walkers, James Irwin on day after return from Apollo 15 mission, showed extraordinary bicycle (B) stress test (ST) hypertension (275/125) after three minutes exercise; supervising >5000 maximum treadmill ST, author never witnessed ST-blood pressure approaching this level. Symptom-limited maximum B stress test showed "Cyanotic fingernails"; possibly venous blood trapped peripherally, supporting author's "Apollo 15 Space Syndrome," postulating that severe fingertip pain during space walks, triggered by plasma fluid, trapped distally; mechanism could be related to endothelial dysfunction, providing "Silent ischemia" warning. Neil Armstrong returned to Earth with severe diastolic hypertension (160/135), consistent with ischemic left ventricular dysfunction; 50mm increase in comparison with resting BP 110/85mm/Hg. With the inhalation of lunar dust, brought into habitat on space suit, with high lunar iron (I) this dust inhalation, along with reduced (R) space flight transferrin, R antioxidant, calcium (Ca) blocker- magnesium, conducive to severe oxidative stress, Ca overload with potential endothelial injuries. Using moon walker studies as example, my recent editorials show that iron dust, released from brakes, with over 90% of brakes made of iron, is a major hypertension factor and may also contribute to myocardial infarctions.

BIOGRAPHY

William J Rowe is a board certified specialist in Internal Medicine. He received his MD at the University of Cincinnati and was in private practice in Toledo, Ohio for 34 years. During that time he supervised over 5000 symptom-limited maximum hospital based treadmill stress tests. He studied three world class extraordinary endurance athletes and published their exercise related magnesium deficiencies. This triggered a 20 year pursuit of the cardiovascular complications of space flight.

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