

# Space Medicine: Mercury-Apollo

- Who was the flight surgeon involved in selecting the Mercury astronauts?
  - Dee O'Hara
  - Charles Berry
  - Leonard Horatio McCoy
- Which type of astronaut medical training was **NOT** used during Mercury?
  - Centrifuge runs
  - Altitude chamber tests
  - Underwater training in spacesuits
- After President Kennedy announced plans for a lunar landing, what was the max mission flight time achieved by a Mercury mission?
  - 48 minutes
  - 34 hours
  - 5 days
- Deke Slayton and which other Mercury astronaut were grounded for medical reasons?
  - Alan Shepard
  - John Glenn
  - Gordon Cooper
- Where was Deke Slayton when he ran out of his heart medication?
  - Astronaut survival training in the desert
  - On vacation in Tahiti
  - On an antelope hunt
- Who charged NASA with developing procedures to prevent a "lunar plague"?
  - John F. Kennedy
  - Lyndon B. Johnson
  - Richard M. Nixon
- How many missions used a Mobile Quarantine Facility (MQF)?
  - One
  - Three
  - Six
- Why did President Nixon fail to have dinner with the astronauts on the eve of the *Apollo 11* launch?
  - It conflicted with the pre-launch quarantine protocol
  - A budget emergency on Capitol Hill
  - A Vietnam War riot was taking place
- NASA designs sought 0.999% reliability for hardware, subsystems, and systems. Why did the chief of medical operations refuse?
  - He didn't think the astronauts were capable
  - There were no established procedures to test astronauts
  - He didn't want to be sent to prison

## Answers:

- (B)
- (C) Underwater training *with* spacesuits was added in the late Gemini Program
- (B) Gordon Cooper, "Faith 7" Mercury-Atlas 9
- (A) Shepard was grounded from 1963-1969 due to an inner ear ailment
- (C) This ultimately led to a reevaluation and change of his flight status
- (B)
- (B) *Apollo 11, 12, and 14. Apollo 13* didn't land on the Moon, so it's MQF wasn't used
- (A)
- (C) The 0.999% reliability spec requires destructive testing (i.e., killing the astronaut)

**Learn more:** "An Interview with Charles Berry: The Astronaut's Doctor" ([Quest: Volume 27 #2](#))

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