March 04, 2002

Mr. Sean O'Keefe  
Administrator  
NASA  
300 E Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20546  

Dear Mr. O'Keefe:

As newly appointed NASA Administrator, I would like to make you aware of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA), the members of which number approximately 3,400 physicians and scientists engaged in the clinical practice of and/or related research in aviation medicine (civil and military) and space medicine. Many of our members are employed by NASA as well as by organizations representing our international partners.

We have reviewed the excellent publication entitled “Safe Passage: Astronaut Care for Exploration Missions”, published by the Institute of Medicine. We find the conclusions and recommendations well founded and would strongly urge you to support the recommendations as put forward in the document.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that AsMA stands ready to assist NASA, particularly in the areas of medical care and space life sciences research. We wish you all the best in your new position. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Russell B. Rayman, M.D.  
Executive Director

RBR:jc