

Dr. Antonsen is the Element Scientist for Exploration Medical Capabilities at NASA Johnson Space Center. He is also an Assistant Professor of Medicine of Emergency Medicine with a co-appointment as an Assistant Professor of Space Medicine at the Center for Space Medicine, both at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston Texas. He received his BS (1997), MS (2001), and PhD (2004) in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) and later his MD (2009) from the University of Illinois at Chicago. He completed an Emergency Medicine Residency in 2013 at Massachusetts General Hospital and Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston and is Board Certified in Emergency Medicine. Clinically he works as an attending Emergency Physician at Ben Taub General Hospital in Houston, TX. He has worked in a variety of fields as an engineer and doctor including spacecraft electric rocket propulsion, plasma light sources and extreme ultraviolet lithography, HIV/AIDs research in Zambia, and providing emergency medical support for the Red Bull Stratos and StratEx high altitude skydive missions. At NASA he is responsible for the vision and technical direction for the Exploration Medical Capabilities Element. This Element is tasked with researching innovative approaches to mitigating the risks to astronaut crews in spaceflight beyond low earth orbit through combined medical and engineering approaches.