


Space Careers Wayfinder

The effects of prolonged space travel on the human body

Identify the major organs/systems of the body which are affected by long term space flight. Use the internet to add images for the organ/system or sketch them on the body below. Include the likely impact on the organ/system from long term space flight.



Earth's gravitational force
 Reduced flow of blood to the eyes.
 Reduced flow of blood to the head with possible blackout.

Radiation
 Cancer, central nervous system damage, cardiovascular disease, degenerative tissue defects

Hostile environment
(Temperature and vacuum in deep space)
 Air drawn from lungs causing suffocation, water in the body would boil with swelling of body tissue.

Microgravity
 Loss in bone density and muscle mass. Increased fluids in the head causing vision impairment and increased pressure on the brain.