



### Into the stratosphere

- 1875, Zenith, 2 men die from lack of O2 at 28,000 ft (5.3 miles)
- 1931 August Piccard, first into the stratosphere, 9.8 miles in a pressurized gondola and breathing oxygen
- 1961, Ross and Prather, highest altitude reached in a balloon (21.5 miles)



Brian Jones, Around the world in 20 days

# Aviation

- 25,000-35,000 ft commercial aircraft
- 60,000 ft, Concorde
- 85,000 ft, Blackbird
- · planes are pressurized to about 8,000 ft
- dangers of sudden decompression – hypoxia
  - unconsciousness in 2 min or less at 25,000 ft
  - Payne Stewart example

### **Physiological Limits**

- 33,000 ft, lose consciousness
- 48,000 ft, limit with pure O2
- 52,000 ft, limit with high pressure breathing
- 62,800 ft, Armstrong line
  - fluids will boil at body temperature
  - Embullisms as  $\mathrm{O}_2$  and  $\mathrm{CO}_2$  form bubbles
  - pressurized suit or capsule
  - altitude decompression sickness in U2 pilots

## **Aviation Protective Measures**

- breathe oxygen
- · pressurize the cabin
- pressurized clothing
- · pressurized breathing
- Chuck Yeager
  - first to break the sound barrier in 1947, 760 mph
    at sea level, Mach 1





#### Pre-breathe options





Pre-breathe 100% O2 4-12 hrs Depression Shuttle 10 hrs

ISS Camp Out Option

#### Exercise Pre-breathe Countermeasure

- Exercise during pre-breathe
- Reduces time for nitrogen elimination
- Saves crew time and oxygen



# Hypergravity

- Sudden changes in acceleration result in g-loc, gravitational induced loss of consciousness
- g tolerance is dependent on
  - intensity
  - duration
  - direction of gravitational forces
- g tolerance ~ body mass
  - distance from heart to brain

	G force nomenclature		
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	Front to back	+Gx	
	Back to front	-Gx	
	Right to left	+Gy	
	Left to right	-Gy	
	Head to foot	+Gz	
	Foot to head	-Gz	

## Normal g-force limits

- "unprotected", 3-4 g
- "protected", 9-10 g
- capacity of aircraft, > 12 g



# Limits for g-tolerance

- · Limiting factors
  - ability to maintain Q
- ability to maintain lung perfusion (> 5g)
- Methods to maintain Q and  $\uparrow$  g toler.
  - straining maneuvers
  - anti-g garment
  - positive pressure breathing
  - reclining seats

### Video

- · Reaching New Heights
- History of the Mayo Clinic Aero Medical Unit
  - oxygen masks
  - pressurized regulators
  - M-1 straining maneuvers
  - g-suit
  - parachute oxygen delivery system