LARA ELISABETH WARREN, Ph.D.

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Dr. Liz Warren was a postdoctoral fellow in the Bioastronautics and Fundamental Space Biology Postdoctoral Research Program. She received her B.S. in Physiology (1996) and Ph.D. in Molecular, Cellular and Integrative Physiology (2003) at the University of California, Davis. In her graduate research, she investigated the effects of altered gravity environments on energy balance in rodents. Prior to her appointment at USRA, Dr. Warren spent one year as an associate investigator in the Laboratory of Cell Growth at the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Medical Center investigating the effects of dietary fatty acids on the development of prostate cancer. Liz has been interested in space physiology and medicine since she was in high school, and her goal is to continue space life sciences research that is critical to the vision for space exploration.

During her postdoctoral appointment at Johnson Space Center's Neurosciences Laboratory, Dr. Warren examined the effects of training modality on adaptive generalization. Her work supported that of Dr. Jacob Bloomberg's development of an in-flight sensorimotor training regimen to facilitate the recovery of locomotor function after long-duration spaceflight.

Currently, Dr. Warren is the Deputy Project Scientist for Artificial Gravity Pilot Study as part of NASA's Flight Analogs / Bed Rest Research Project. This project provides NASA with a ground based research platform to complement space research. By mimicking the conditions of weightlessness on the human body here on Earth, NASA can test and refine countermeasure efficacy on the ground before implementation in space. Artificial Gravity is a multi-system countermeasure that utilizes a human centrifuge to produce a gravitational force to mitigate the deconditioning associated with space flight.