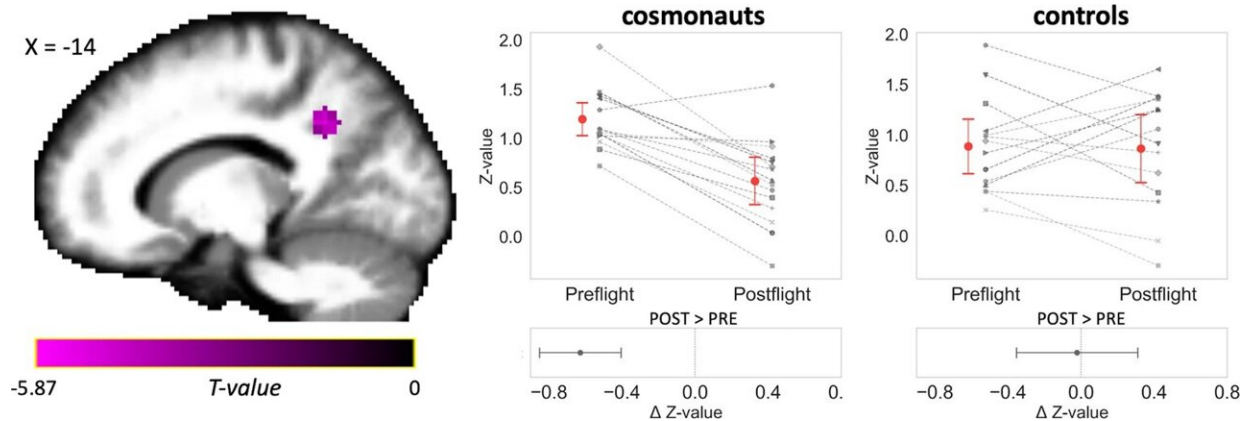


Space travel influences the way the brain works

February 17 2023



Connectivity of the posterior cingulate cortex with the rest of the brain is reduced after spaceflight. At postflight, cosmonauts exhibited decreased participation of the posterior cingulate cortex (PCC) in whole-brain connectivity when compared to the preflight scan. Individual intrinsic connectivity contrast (ICC) values (gray) as extracted from the PCC cluster across the two scans in the cosmonaut group confirmed this decreasing effect for most cosmonauts (red: mean). For comparative purposes, in the control group (n = 14) ICC values did not show significant modifications across time (average change approximated zero). Subplots summarize the estimated differences between the two timepoints. Error bars indicate 95% confidence intervals. Slice coordinates are in MNI space. Statistical significance is based on p

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