

Lt. Col. Francesco Torchia, M.D.

Lt. Col. Francesco Torchia graduated at the Catholic University of Rome, School of Medicine, in 1988 and he obtained a post-graduate specialization in Emergency Surgery and first aid in 1993. Medical Officer of the Italian Air Force since 1994, he is currently Medical Assessor at the Aero Medical Section of the Italian Civil Aviation Authority.

Staff Officer of the Chief of the Italian Air Force Medical Corps for the international relations, he is currently Chairman of the European Air Group Aviation Medicine Coordination Board. Qualified Test Flight Surgeon, he had managed the physiological training of the military aviators regarding the challenges of the High Altitude and Extreme Environments, as he was responsible for ten years of the hypobaric chamber training at the Aerospace Medicine Department of the Italian Air Force.

He is qualified US Navy and US Air Force Flight Surgeon and, in 2005, he qualified as Space Flight Surgeon at the Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre in Moscow.

Corresponding Member of the International Academy of Astronautics he is also Board member of the Italian Association of Aerospace Medicine and of the the Italian Society of Sport Cardiology.