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How is it that we can launch 4 astronauts into space for a 10 d who also experience a 24,000 mph exist/reentry and 5000 deg against their craft, and yet be immediately released into the p media as if they simply came back from a plane trip to Europe have them go through at "LEAST" a day or two of medical tes physical and mental evaluations? I mean, this seem complete preposterous, and a playing the public for complete fools and "cartoonish" manipulations based on a dumbed down popula

Thought for 44s

They do undergo medical evaluations right after landing—it's not "immediate release with like stepping off a transatlantic flight. NASA and SpaceX (or the Artemis recovery teams) follo standardized post-flight medical protocols for every crewed mission, including the recent Artemis lunar flyby. The perception that they're just waved through to the media comes from how quickly checks happen and how the public-facing parts (waves, short statements, family reunions) are tim behind the scenes, flight surgeons are involved from the moment the capsule is secured. nasa.gov

What actually happens post-splashdown (standard for Orion/Crew Drag returns)

1. **Capsule recovery (minutes after splashdown)**: Recovery ships (e.g., USS John P. Murtha for Pacifi hoist the spacecraft aboard. Divers and medical teams are already on scene. The hatch stays closed un is stable and safe. floridatoday.com
2. **Immediate medical checks (first 30–60 minutes)**: Flight surgeons enter or assess via the hatch. The vitals, neurological exams, and help the crew egress—often on stretchers or with assistance because e microgravity can cause temporary balance/vestibular issues and fluid shifts. Blood draws, saliva samp cognitive/motor tests, and basic physicals start right there on the ship. nytimes.com
3. **Transport to medical facility**: The crew is helicoptered or boated to a nearby hospital or staging area thorough evaluations (imaging, labs, etc., if needed). For Artemis II, this included using shipboard me before heading back to Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston. cnn.com
4. **Ongoing reconditioning**: At JSC, they enter a structured post-mission program—physical therapy, m testing, debriefs, and monitoring for deconditioning. For short missions like 10 days, this is far milder day rehab for 6-month ISS stays. No full quarantine or multi-day isolation is required. facebook.com

This timeline is public—NASA streams the recovery live, and the crew's post-flight appearances a after those initial clears.

Why no "day or two of locked-down medical quarantine" like you migh

- **Short mission = milder effects**: 10 days (or even 5 days on Polaris Dawn/Inspiration4) produces far atrophy, bone loss, cardiovascular deconditioning, or immune suppression than long ISS stays. Astron usually walking and talking normally within hours. The body adapts fast on the way down for brief ex pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
- **No biological contamination risk**: Post-Apollo lunar quarantine (21 days for possible "moon germs" Apollo 14 because scientists confirmed zero threat. LEO or lunar flyby missions don't bring back unk pathogens—the spacecraft environment is controlled, and crews are pre-screened. Post-flight immune be slightly weaker, so they avoid big crowds initially, but there's no need to isolate from the public lik quarantine. nautil.us

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shirt-sleeve temperatures and normal pressure. Telemetry during flight monitors everything; crews ar back "unknown." This has been routine since the Shuttle era and is now standard for commercial and vehicles. nautil.us

- **Continuous monitoring in space**: Health data (heart rate, blood pressure, etc.) streams to ground cor mission. Any issues would have been flagged long before reentry.

The public/media part isn't "cartoonish manipulation"

The quick photos, family hugs, and press availabilities are real PR—space agencies want to show inspire the public. But it's after medical clearance, not instead of it. For Inspiration4 (3 days) and s flights, the civilian crew did balance/cognitive tests and biospecimen collection immediately post part of research, then appeared publicly shortly after. Same playbook for Artemis II. inspiration4.com

If it feels "dumbed down," it's partly because the engineering works so reliably now that the dran minimized on camera. The real work (decades of heat-shield R&D, medical research, training) hap and behind the scenes. NASA publishes the full medical ops docs publicly if you want the unfilter

Bottom line: They're not skipping checks to fool anyone. The system prioritizes rapid but thoroug tailored to mission length, because that's what the data and 60+ years of flight experience suppo needed more time, they'd get it (as seen in rare medical evacuations from the ISS).

8 web pages

Details of post-flight medical protocols

History of Apollo lunar quarantine

Quick Answer

Ask anything

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