

IAF/IAA SPACE LIFE SCIENCES SYMPOSIUM (A1)
Late breaking abstracts (LBA)

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AQUANAUTA CE'S FIRST CAVE DIVING MISSION - A HIGH-FIDELITY ANALOGUE APPROACH
TO SPACE EXPLORATION**Abstract**

Aquanauta CE (www.aquanauta.space) organises cave diving missions as space analogues with the purpose to study behavioural health of expert explorers in an environment, which has high-fidelity to contemporary and future space exploration goals.

In this interactive presentation we will give a peak into our first mission performed in 2021, May; alongside with some of the key outcomes in these extreme, confined, isolated underwater venues. We believe high fidelity contexts like cave, technical and commercial diving has higher level of realism to space exploration, and in some respect can be a better alternative to desert-based analogues. In particular, behavioural health research may even have higher face validity to "traditional" approaches due to the high task complexity, the expertise required, and the environmental, psychological and physiological stressors involved.

We look forward connecting with future partners and those who may be interested to potentially invest in what we do.