

Eascra Biotech Wins \$7.96 Million NASA Award to Advance Space-Based Medicine Manufacturing

\$7.96 Million Award Marks a New Milestone for Space-Enabled Medicine



Pune, Maharashtra Aug 31, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - [Eascra Biotech](https://www.issuewire.com) has received a **\$7.96 million NASA In Space Production Applications (InSPA) Phase 2 award**, supporting its efforts to manufacture advanced nanoparticle-based medicines in low Earth orbit.

The [nanomedicine](https://www.issuewire.com) startup is developing its proprietary **Janus Base Nanoparticles (JBNps)** as a next-generation delivery platform for RNA therapeutics, gene editing and other treatments that are difficult to deliver to specific tissues. The latest NASA award represents an important step in moving the company's space-enabled manufacturing approach closer to commercial use.

NASA Support Strengthens Eascra's Space Manufacturing Vision

NASA's InSPA program aims to encourage companies to use the unique conditions of space to develop and manufacture products with applications on Earth. Eascra's selection aligns with the agency's broader goal of expanding commercial activity in low Earth orbit.

For Eascra, microgravity could offer advantages during the development and manufacturing of complex therapeutic materials. The company believes that conducting more rigorous testing during the early

stages of development could help streamline the journey toward regulatory approval.

Eascra is targeting **FDA [clinical trials](#) for its JBNp platform by 2028**, bringing the concept of space-manufactured therapeutics closer to potential clinical application.

Building Experience Through International Space Station Missions

The company has already completed **six missions to the International Space Station in under three years**. It expects to carry out another six missions over the next two years as it works toward scaling its manufacturing capabilities.

This growing number of missions provides Eascra with repeated opportunities to study how its nanoparticle technology performs in the space environment and to build the operational experience needed for future commercial production.

A Delivery Platform for Difficult-to-Reach Tissues

Eascra's Janus Base Nanoparticle technology was developed by co-founder **Dr. Yupeng Chen**, an associate professor of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Connecticut.

The platform is designed to help deliver RNA therapeutics to tissues that are particularly challenging to target, including **articular cartilage, kidneys and solid tumors**. Effective delivery remains one of the biggest technical challenges in RNA medicine and [gene-editing therapies](#).

Another important feature of the JBNp platform is its **room-temperature stability**, which could reduce dependence on specialized cold-chain infrastructure and potentially simplify the storage and transportation of future therapies.

Osteoarthritis Highlights the Growing Medical Need

One of the areas Eascra is targeting is **osteoarthritis**, where its cartilage-focused therapeutic approach could address a significant unmet medical need.

Osteoarthritis affects a substantial portion of the global population and currently has no known cure. The increasing number of people living with the condition is also creating growing demand for treatments that can go beyond symptom management.

Eascra sees its nanoparticle platform as a potential tool for delivering advanced therapies directly to challenging tissues such as cartilage.

Recent Recognition Builds Momentum

The NASA award adds to a series of recent milestones for Eascra. The company won **first place at the TechConnect Bio in Space Innovation Challenge in March 2026** and was included in **Fast Company's Next Big Things in Tech list for 2025**.

Eascra has also secured **more than \$8 million in previous grants, awards and commercial-sponsored research**, with support involving NASA, NSF, AFWERX, MassVentures and [pharmaceutical industry](#) partners.

The new Phase 2 award gives the company additional resources to advance its technology and explore whether space-based manufacturing can become a practical part of the future pharmaceutical supply chain.

About Eascra Biotech

Eascra Biotech is a nanomedicine company developing advanced nanoparticle platforms for RNA therapeutics, gene editing and difficult-to-deliver treatments. The company is exploring low Earth orbit manufacturing to advance the development of next-generation medicines for use on Earth.

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