

**Neuroscience plan to
resume wet bench work
research**

Safe Practices

Discussion points

- **Who should stay at home**
- **Lab occupancy**
- **PPE**
- **Routine lab surface cleaning**
- **Lunch and break areas**
- **Elevators**
- **Meetings**
- **PI responsibilities**
- **Self monitoring**
- **What to do if you have COVID-19 symptoms**
- **Lab cleaning after COVID-19 infection**

Stay at home:

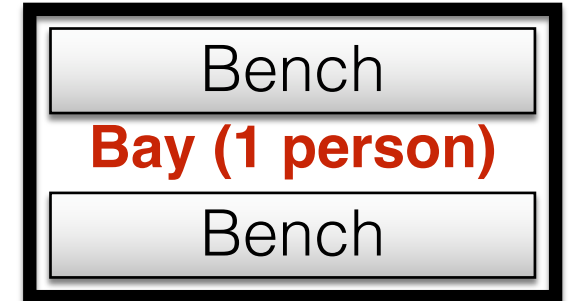
- All computational researchers
- Administrative/financial staff

Wet lab researchers:

Biosafety training

- PI's responsibility to ensure all trainees and staff are up to date with mandatory online training including C14 certification**

Wet lab researchers: occupancy



- **Each laboratory can have only 1 person per bay at any given time**
- All common equipment area (tissue culture rooms, cold rooms, etc) should be used ensuring the >6 feet social distancing
- The labs should organize an online common usage scheduling calendar for shared equipment and rooms
- **Question: Hess labs have larger bays – can we have more than 1 person?**

Wet lab researchers:

PPE

- Everyone should wear lab surgical **masks** at all times in the lab and within the hallways
- MSSM will 'initially' supply the masks, DSO (dept safety officers) will distribute them
- Everyone should wear **gloves** within labs
- Everyone should wear their **badges** all the time
- Remember to wear your lab-coats

Wet lab researchers: masks

Surgical masks distribution points: only a DSO can pick them up. Masks will be distributed weekly to LSO's for lab distribution. This will be on a Monday distribution schedule.

Hess: 6th floor conference room- Bill will pick up and distribute from Hess 10-113 (10:30 -12:00)

Icahn: Jaime and Rosa will pick up from Hess and transfer to Icahn for distribution. Time/Place?

Annenberg: **TBD – still need clarification**

One mask/day/researcher. Individual should be aware of allergies to minimize sneezing/soiling masks

Wet lab researchers: routine surface cleaning

- Clean the lab surface working area 2 times a day: **start & end** of each day. Commercial disinfectants are the responsibility of individual labs. The Department will provide for core rooms (microscopes, etc.)
- Everyone should wash their hands frequently

Other available disinfectant options:

70% Ethanol (not 100%) requires a 5 minute dwell time to effectively kill viruses.

70% isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) also needs a 5 minute dwell time to effectively kill viruses.

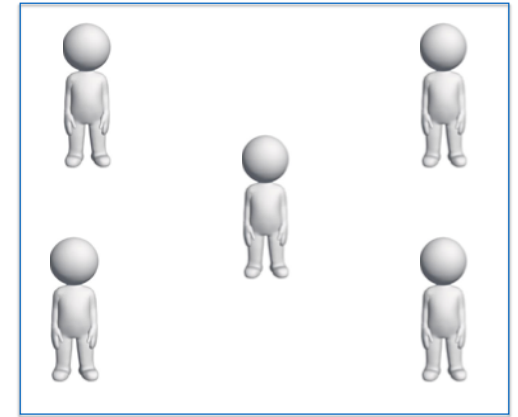
Diluted bleach (20 ml of bleach diluted to 1 liter h₂O) needs 10 minute dwell time to effectively kill viruses

Wet lab researchers: lunch and break areas

- Icahn/Hhess - **only 3 people** can use the lunch area at a given time.
- Please limit your lunch time to **15-20 min max**. This way more people can use the area.
- Conference rooms in each lab floor will be available for lunch and breaks.
- Please respect the > 6 feet social distancing
- **Users should be responsible for cleaning the surface eating area after use – eat at home or outside in park if possible**

Wet lab researchers:

Elevators



- Always use a mask inside the elevators
- DO NOT wear gloves inside the general elevators
- Elevator max capacity: **5 people or 4 people???**
- Please use the next elevator if you see that there is already **max** people inside it
- Face away from each other inside the elevator
- Use the stairs if you want to do some exercise (gyms are still closed)
- Markers/stickers will be placed on floor outside elevator bays to ensure single-file and safe distancing

Wet lab researchers: meetings

- No in-person meetings of any size: WIPs, seminars, thesis committee meetings, lab meetings, etc. All meetings will continue to be done via Zoom

Wet lab researchers: PI/LSO responsibilities

Each lab's PI/LSO is responsible for maintaining all these guidelines

Safety officers will perform regular rounds. They will be looking for safety compliance in the labs. They are available to answer any questions as well:

Jaime - Icahn (jaime.rodriguez@mssm.edu)

Bill - Hess (bill.janssen@mssm.edu) &

Environmental Health & Safety (josef.ehnholt@mssm.edu)

- Any laboratory that is **noncompliant** will be closed immediately for a period of at least **1 month**. A committee will perform an assessment to determine if the laboratory should reopen

Wet lab researchers: self monitoring

- All staff should monitor themselves for Covid-19 symptoms (fever, sore throat, cough, shortness of breath).
- Anyone with symptoms should immediately remove themselves from the lab and **notify their PI immediately**
- The researcher or PI should contact the Employee Health Service (**EHS**) for guidance

WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

- **Notify your PI**
- **Complete the online RedCap Survey** (you will need your life number)
<https://redcap.mountsinai.org/redcap/surveys/?s=NR7Y7DAWDW>
- Once the survey has been completed, and EHS clinician will reach out to you
- Employee Health Services (EHS)
19 East 98th St - 2nd Floor Suite 2-D (8am-4pm)
(212) 824-7690
employee.health@mountsinai.org

Lab cleaning after a confirmed COVID case

Contact:

Jaime Rodriguez (Jaime.Rodriguez@mssm.edu)

Winter Slaughter (Winter.Slaughter@mssm.edu)

- Please provide:

- Lab member and PI names

- Lab location

- Identify the benches which are infected for cleaning.

Lab cleaning after a confirmed COVID case

- Questions raised concerning:
 - contact person for housekeeping/cleaning of labs after COVID infection?
- Please provide:
 - Lab member and PI names
 - Lab location
 - Identify the benches which are infected for cleaning.

**Welcome
back!!!!**