

To: West Virginia University (WVU) Health Science Center Clinical Research Investigators and Coordinators

From: Sally L. Hodder MD, Assoc. Vice President, Clinical and Translational Research, WVU HSC

Date: February 11, 2022

Re: **Updated Health Sciences Center Clinical Research Recommendations**

The Omicron variant surge appears to be in decline and all in-person research activities may be conducted at this time, at the PI's discretion. Please ensure that the following measures are followed.

When participant onsite visits are conducted, the following procedures should continue to be implemented:

- 1) Participants should be pre-screened (prior to arrival in Morgantown) for symptoms consistent with COVID-19, any recent COVID exposure, or a recent positive COVID test. If any of these are present, an in-person visit should not be conducted.
- 2) N95 or KN95 masks must be worn by all participants and research personnel, at all times when present anywhere on the WVU Medicine or WVU campuses, including any of the WVU Medicine buildings and the Health Sciences Center. N-95 or KN-95 masks should be available to give to participants if needed.
- 3) Adequate well-ventilated space that permits appropriate social distancing must be provided for all visits.
- 4) Areas and equipment used must be meticulously wiped before and after the visit with appropriate disinfectant.

It is recommended, but not required, that study monitor or site assessment visits be conducted remotely.

Federal, state/local public health and institutional policies (including mask-wearing, screening and quarantine/isolation requirements) should continue to be followed to ensure safety of research personnel and participants. Refer to the following websites:

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>

WV Department of Health and Human Resources: <https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/Provider-Resources.aspx>

As SARS-CoV-2 continues to evolve, we will periodically update this memo. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Shelley Welch or Tanya Moran, Co-Directors, Clinical Trials Center of Excellence.

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