

UMSON Office of Research and Scholarship

Preventing Spread of COVID-19 in Research and Scholarship*

UMSON Faculty Researchers, Students/Trainees, and Staff Participating in University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB)/University of Maryland Medical Center (UMMC)/University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS) Research

UMSON faculty researchers who have active protocols who engage with participants in person should follow [UMB's clinical guidance](#) prior to in-person contact (screening or scheduled research visit) with participants. If possible, participants and potential participants should be contacted and screened for COVID-19 symptoms prior to each in-person visit.

If participants or potential participants are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, refer them to seek medical care immediately and reschedule their research visits. Capture each rescheduling event on the protocol deviation log present in the study-specific regulatory binder.

The Office of Research and Scholarship does not consider screening for COVID-19 and rescheduling as appropriate to be a major deviation unless the action places research participants at increased risk of harm. It is the responsibility of the investigator to properly document deviations for their respective applicable research studies. If the deviation places the participant at increased risk, report the deviation immediately (within five business days) to the Institutional Research Board (IRB). If the deviation does not place the participant at increased risk, present the rescheduling events in summary to the IRB at annual review and/or include in annual Data Safety Monitoring.

UMSON Faculty Researchers, Students/Trainees, and Staff Participating in Non-UMB/UMMC/UMMS Research

UMSON faculty, students/trainees, and staff who are members of study teams on active protocols at non-UMB institutions and engage with participants in person (both human subjects and non-human subjects research) are responsible for obtaining and following the non-UMB research/project site's guidelines on engaging with participants during the COVID-19 outbreak. PhD students and trainees conducting human subjects research should consult with their UMSON faculty mentors and/or the Office of Research and Scholarship research quality manager to discuss how best to proceed.

UMSON Faculty Researchers, Students/Trainees, and Staff Participating in Non-Human Subjects Research

UMSON faculty, students/trainees, and staff who are members of project teams are responsible for obtaining and following the UMB ([UMB's clinical guidance](#)) or non-UMB project site's guidelines on engaging with participants during the COVID-19 outbreak. If the project site's guidelines impact Doctor of Nursing Practice or non-human subjects research projects, the students or investigators should discuss how best to proceed with their faculty advisor and/or and the Office of Research and Scholarship research quality manager.

Please note that this guidance does not pertain to chart reviews or studies/projects that are no longer engaging with participants in person (follow-up or phone call/email only).

*Faculty, staff, students, and trainees are expected to follow [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) guidance for preventing the spread of COVID-19, including staying home except to get medical care if you are sick with COVID-19 or suspect you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19.