



*Division of*

**RESEARCH**

*Research Compliance*

## **COVID-19 Safety Procedures Notification**

**This Safety Notification is intended to provide context for a conversation with prospective participants about what Clemson University researchers are doing to protect both participants and staff.**

- **This notice is required for study participants moving forward until the COVID-19 situation is resolved.**
- **Use of the notice does NOT require separate IRB approval.**
- **This notice should be shared with participants ahead of a study visit. The notice may be placed online, e-mailed or shared in a call.**

Researchers will do everything reasonably possible to make sure you stay safe while participating in research studies. We know that COVID-19 will be in our community for many months. Clemson University has created internal guidance to assist research team members in minimizing transmission of COVID-19 in research spaces and in the community. We appreciate your participation in our study and willingness to abide by any new guidelines.

Risks associated with COVID-19 infection are well known and we know that the disease can be obtained through close contact with someone who is sick or someone who has the virus but is not showing symptoms. While we have done everything possible to reduce transmission of COVID-19, we cannot guarantee that you will not be exposed to COVID-19 during your research visit. Risks of becoming infected with COVID-19 are now part of our daily life.

Please let a research team member know immediately if you experience symptoms and/or are diagnosed with COVID-19 up to 14 days after any study visit. In addition, please notify us if someone in your household has shown symptoms or is diagnosed with COVID-19 after your visit.

Remember that participation in research is valuable but also voluntary. Let us know if you are generally uncomfortable with any of the guidelines.

### **What are we doing to protect you?**

All research team members are responsible for following Clemson University guidelines on self-assessment screenings and appropriate testing to ensure that they are not showing any symptoms of COVID-19 before they come into work. Research participants will also be screened for symptoms before attending any research study visit.

All research team members will wear appropriate protective equipment relative to the specific type of research activity. Some research procedures may just require a mask and gloves, but others may require more protective equipment.

We are following infection control practices, including disinfection, wearing gloves, and hand washing as outlined by the CDC and Clemson University guidance.

We are limiting the number of visitors accompanying people for their study visits. We also have rearranged and/or removed furniture to enforce strict social distancing practices.

We are using telephone or video conferencing whenever possible and will reduce the number of study participants coming to our research areas at the same time.

Please ask if there is anything you are concerned about and thank you again for your participation.