COVID-19

GUIDANCE FOR USC LABORATORY PERSONNEL

RESEARCHERS

1. Stay home if you are sick. Contact your department’s Human Resources group if you have questions about sick leave.

2. Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use a hand sanitizer containing greater than 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.

3. Always wash your hands after entering the lab, after removing gloves, and before leaving the lab.

4. Avoid shaking hands and always wash your hands after physical contact with others.

5. Cover your coughs and sneezes with a tissue, or cough and sneeze into your upper sleeve. Dispose of tissues into no-touch trash receptacles.

6. Wash your hands or use a hand sanitizer after coughing, sneezing, or blowing your nose.

7. Avoid touching your nose, mouth and eyes.

8. Utilize social distancing by consciously maintaining 3- to 6-foot spacing between individuals, coming into the lab in shifts, and allowing every other bench to be unoccupied.

9. Keep frequently touched common surfaces (e.g., telephones, computer equipment, door knobs and light switches, etc.) clean. Use disinfectant wipes.

10. Do not share other workers’ phones, desks, offices, or other work tools and equipment.

11. Use separate work bench areas if possible.

12. Minimize group meetings; utilize online meeting platforms whenever possible.

13. Limit unnecessary visitors to the workplace.

14. Keep disinfectant wipes available at commonly used equipment such as computers and decontaminate before and after use.

15. Do not share PPE unless it can be decontaminated between uses.

16. If shared, decontaminate face shields, safety glasses, and goggles prior to use.

17. Prioritize use of standard precautions when handling human specimens.