

Wednesday, May 27

The COVID-19 Research Reboot Update

Dear Colleagues,

To those of you who have returned to campus over the past week or so, welcome back! It has been nice to see some more smiling (yet masked) faces around our research buildings.

As we begin the second week with more people reporting to campus, we'd like to provide some reminders as well as new guidance that will help keep us all safe as we return to work. As a side note, we will do these updates on a weekly basis as we navigate the return to work in the COVID-19 era.

Masks: Please wear a mask at all times when you are on campus (in the lab as well as hallways, restrooms, breakrooms). Because we cannot verify the quality of homemade masks, we ask that you wear [surgical procedure face masks.](#)

How to order masks (and other supplies): To ensure that all research and clinical areas at URMC are able to obtain adequate supplies of PPE and other resources, we are centralizing the ordering process to go through the URMC Purchasing and Supply Chain. We will share more specifics on how to order as soon as that process is worked out.

Dr. ChatBot: All who are reporting to campus must complete the Dr. ChatBot health screening ([for URMC faculty, staff, postdocs](#) and [for students](#)) every day before their shift and should be ready to show their green checkmark to their supervisors upon reporting to work. URMC employees and students who are working from home are encouraged, but not required, to complete the screening daily and this tool will still be available to those who are furloughed.

Reporting concerns: As you return to work, we want you all to feel like you're returning to a safe and supportive environment. If you have any concerns about safety compliance or other issues related to returning to work, please email research_covid_concerns@urmc.rochester.edu. Your question or concern will be routed to the appropriate URMC research deans who will address the question and/or take remedial action. If you would like to remain anonymous, please request that your email be treated confidentially.

As we navigate this new normal together, we want to thank you all for your cooperation. We will need to remain nimble and responsive as local, state and national policies and guidelines progress. We will keep you informed in the process.

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