



Dear Research Participant:

Thank you for your interest in participating in research at Texas A&M University. Your participation requires you to come to campus. We want you to know that during the COVID-19 pandemic, the University has taken precautions to make your visit as safe as possible. These precautions include:

- Approximately, 24 hours before coming to campus you must complete the Coronavirus Self Checker for COVID-19 symptoms or known COVID-19 exposure ([Symptoms of COVID-19 | CDC](#)). If any questions are answered with “yes” and the symptom is not related to a pre-existing medical condition, you may not come to campus.
- Contact the study team to reschedule your study visit if you answered “yes” to any of the COVID-19 screening questions.
- On the day of the study visit the study team will verify that you were negative for the COVID 19 Screening and Exposure Assessment questions upon arrival at the study site.
- COVID 19 symptom screenings are conducted for research team members on the day of each study visit prior to your arrival.
- Face coverings are strongly recommended for all but cannot be mandated for either research team members or participants according to Texas Executive Order GA 36.
- COVID-19 vaccinations are strongly recommended for all but cannot be mandated for either research team members or participants nor can participation in research be conditioned upon vaccine status according to Texas Executive Order GA 39.
- Research participants and study team members are required to wash or sanitize hands before and after study visits.
- Some study procedures may require the research team members to wear gloves or other personal protective equipment.
- Equipment and contact surfaces are cleaned before and after each participant’s study visit.
- Social distancing procedures are used, when at all possible.
- Study participant appointments are staggered when possible.
- Contact information is verified and updated for contact tracing purposes.

Participants and/or research team members failing the pre-study-visit COVID-19 screening are asked to stay home and not come to campus. Those failing the COVID-19 screening when on campus will be asked to leave campus.

For any procedures requiring close contact, additional precautions such as enhanced personal protective equipment, the addition of plexi-glass shielding or other measures may be utilized based on the study requirements.

Please remember that participation in research is always voluntary. Your voluntariness is even more important during the current pandemic when it is not possible to ensure a 100% COVID-free environment even with precautions in place. Also, note that CDC has determined that based on currently available information that adults over the age of 65 and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions might be at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Medical conditions that may place people at higher risk from COVID-19 include asthma, chronic kidney or lung disease, diabetes, immunocompromised patients, serious heart conditions, liver disease and those who are severely obese. Please consider this when making your decision about study participation.



If you feel uncomfortable regarding the presence of COVID-19 in general, or the level of precautions in place as described above, you can choose not to take part in the research, change your mind about continuing in the research or you may reschedule your study visit.

In most cases, research study visits can be rescheduled to a time when you feel more comfortable. However, in some cases you may be withdrawn from the research. Please discuss this with your research team and ask them any questions you may have prior to moving forward with study participation.

Finally, should you show symptoms of COVID-19 or receive positive test results within 14 days of your scheduled visit, please alert the principal investigator of the research at the number indicated on your consent form.

Acknowledgement of Understanding

I have read the information provided above and acknowledge that I have been informed of and understand the precautions that Texas A&M University is taking to safeguard potential research subjects from contracting COVID-19. I also understand that although the risk may be reduced by these precautions, there is still a chance I could contract COVID-19 while on the TAMU campus. I will report any CDC-designated symptoms or positive COVID test results occurring within 14 days of my study visit to the research team.

Participants Printed Name

Participants Signature

Date