Safety Actions for UAMS Research Areas during the COVID Pandemic

ALL RESEARCH EMPLOYEES/VISITORS

- All personnel <u>must</u> be screened via https://uamshealth.com/coronavirus/ and have a temperature scan at a UAMS testing location prior to entering a research area.
- Masks (cloth face coverings) must be worn when entering research buildings/spaces and in common areas (e.g., hallways, restrooms, break areas, stock rooms).
- Maintain at least 6 ft. social distancing between all personnel. If laboratories/offices are not able to create 6 ft. of physical distance between employees, then work schedules should be revised to achieve this safety goal.
- Meetings must held in rooms large enough to maintain 6 ft. social distancing or held via video conferencing (e.g., Zoom).
- Minimize shared items (pens, notebooks, frequently used reagent bottles, etc.).
- Wash your hands thoroughly with soap (or use hand sanitizer) upon entering and before leaving a lab or work space, and wash them after touching shared devices (e.g., telephone, copier, stapler, file cabinet, pipets, refrigerator, freezer).
- Personnel should disinfect surfaces (e.g., tables, benchtops, and common room chairs) before/after each use.
- Where possible, trash cans should be left outside work spaces to reduce the number of people entering.

LABORATORY PERSONNEL

- Disinfect shared equipment before/after each use, particularly instruments and equipment with direct skin contact (i.e., microscope eyepieces, digital touchpads).
- Safety PPE should be worn as required for laboratory work.
- Wear eye protection when there is potential for facial splash/splatter or when surface contact is unavoidable.
- Each laboratory/research space may only accommodate 1 person/144 ft^2 maximum. If researchers are not able to maintain at least 6 feet of social distance (or the person/ ft^2 requirement), then the work schedule must be revised and/or reconfigured.
- Since lab benches are not 6 feet across, plan to work on only one side of a lab bench (or widely staggered) in most instances.