

## FACE-TO-FACE (F2F) INTERACTION RECOMMENDATION

V 8.13.2020

Some research activity requires face-to-face interactions that would result in close contact (<6ft) and for an extended period of time (>15 minutes). Face-to-face interactions can include clinical research, hands on research, community-based or field-based research and various types of training and education. To minimize risk, extra hygiene steps are required for these close contact activities.

Risk can be further mitigated if meetings/sessions are pre-scheduled in order to allow pre-screening of covid-related symptoms.

### **General: Face to face interactions without close contact**

- Face covering for both participant and researcher
- Physical distancing (6ft or greater)

**Level 1: F2F with Close Contact and Pre-Screening:** In cases where F2F close contact interactions can be schedule ahead of time – it is recommended that pre-screening be conducted at least 48 hour prior to scheduled time (using the Drexel Health Tracker satisfies this requirement). The prescreen will allow assessment of risk prior to the individual arriving on campus.

In these cases, the following PPE is required

1. Face covering for both participant and researchers / students
2. Face shield for researchers / students
3. Gloves for researchers /students

Work **involving community-based clinical populations/participants and/or vulnerable populations**, have the following additional requirements to the above:

1. Completed health screening within 48 hours of scheduled visit
2. Temperature assessment on arrival

### **Level 2: Additional Requirements for Unscreened participants**

- **Field Based Populations**, that cannot be screened prior to visit/participation, such as Walk-Ins or testing in the field, require Level 1 PP and the following additional requirements
  1. N95 respirator (prior fit testing required)
  2. Disposable gown
  3. Temperature assessment on arrival

All research ramp-up requests involving face-to-face interactions will be reviewed on a case-by-case situation and we will work closely with the Investigator/Scholar to meet the safety needs for the proposed research project.

All research involving F2F must meet these requirements, **unless an exception is approved by EHS/ORI.**

These requirements are in addition to other current public health controls and/or patient/participant safety measures, or hazard specific controls that may be in place.

Any researchers that have already been approved to resume research activities but have a need for close contact work should reach out to the ORI for approval.

*These requirements are subject to change based on emerging science and information.*