RESEARCH TOWN HALL

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Vice Chancellor for Research

July 7, 2020
Today’s Agenda

• Research Ramp Up:
  • Updates, Issues & Opportunities

• ALERTs:
  • International Students, Postdocs & Scholars
  • Cybersecurity

• Q&A
The Daily San Diego SARS CoV-2 Case Load is Intensifying
Restoration of Selected San Diego County Restrictions

• Rather than being framed as “pulling back”, the restrictions are refinements based on epidemiological data gleaned from outbreak investigations
  • Clusters center on restaurants, bars and indoor events (including home events)
• Restrictions focused on these settings and activities
  • Indoor restaurants, bars, theaters, museums
  • Did not include gyms or megachurches
• Little evidence of transmission in standard business operations in which people are masking, distancing and surface cleaning.
Research Ramp Up: by the numbers (July 6)

• 754 research plans approved: ramping up/on site

  284 approved plans on Main Campus
  93 in Biological Sciences; 101 in Engineering; 64 in Physical Sciences; 8 in Social Sciences; 11 in ORUs (AA); 7 in A & H

  345 in Health Sciences
  289 in School of Medicine; 24 in Skaggs School of Pharmacy; 32 in MCC & ACTRI

  111 in Marine Sciences
Reminders: Preparing staff for safe work

1. **Distribute** Approved Social Distance, Facial covering & Sanitization Plan (if applicable) Alternative Risk Management Plan

2. **Train all staff** in use of face masks, sanitization protocols, lab requirements, etc.

3. **Direct** staff to register for **Symptom Screener** complete daily

Daily Symptom Screening (Chris Longhurst)

• Goal is to keep our employees and their families safe

• Completing the tool is *required* for employees coming on site, and strongly encouraged for employees working remotely in San Diego region

• Employees who screen positive to follow up questions will receive a call from the employee testing line
# COVID-19 Testing at UC San Diego

**(Brendan Kremer)**

## PCR
- PCR = reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction
- 3 collection sites
  - Nasal midturbinate swab
  - Nasal pharyngeal swab
  - Oral pharyngeal swab
- 24 hour result turnaround time
- Negative – no significant clinical follow up required
- Positive – COEM for care instructions and return to work planning

## Rapid Test
- PCR = reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction
- Results in 120 minutes
- Abbott Laboratories
- Limited distribution across the nation
- Reserved for ED, Labor & Delivery, inpatient critical units
- Negative – procedure will take place
- Positive – enhanced precautions or reschedule

## Serology
- Detects IgG antibodies to COVID-19
- Blood draw
- 24 hour result turnaround time
- Negative – no significant clinical follow up required
- Positive – no significant clinical follow up required
## Patient Testing Update Programs

### PCR Testing
- **Daily Capacity:** 800-1000
- **Focus:**
  - Employees with symptoms
  - Outpatients with symptoms
  - Inpatients with symptoms
  - Scheduled surgical cases
  - Inpatient Admissions
  - OB deliveries
  - Scheduled procedures
  - Discharges to sub-acute care sites
  - Asymptomatic Employee Testing
  - Asymptomatic Campus Testing
  - SNFs, First Responders
  - Other Reference
- **Tests per Day:** 800 – 1,000
- **Ambulatory schedule appointments at 5 drive up locations**

### Rapid Test
- **Daily Capacity:** 100
- **Focus:**
  - ED/Trauma/Burn Admits
  - OB Deliveries
  - Transfers
  - Urgent Surgical/Missed Amb
  - Other ICU
  - Transplant
- **Tests per Day:** 75 - 100
- **Requests currently are greater than capacity**

### Serology Testing
- **Daily Capacity:** 300 - 600
- **Focus:**
  - Patients
  - Asymptomatic Employees
- **Tests per Day:** 150 - 200
**Employee Testing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intake/Scheduling</th>
<th>Contact Process</th>
<th>Specimen Collection/Testing</th>
<th>Resulting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>On Line Registered Through Tool</strong></td>
<td><strong>Other Identified Priority Groups</strong></td>
<td><strong>Failed Screening, UCSD Insurance Product</strong></td>
<td><strong>Failed Screening, Non-UCSD Insurance Product (i.e.: Kaiser)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No triage, Registration and MyChart if needed, scheduling</td>
<td>Call Center to Contact Employee (List) 619-543-8260 Mon-Sun, 8-5pm</td>
<td>Triage, Registration and MyChart if needed, scheduling</td>
<td>1. Testing via own PCP 2. Triage, Registration and MyChart if needed, scheduling</td>
</tr>
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<td>1. Call PCP office to schedule 2. Call Center to Contact Employee (List)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulatory COVID Resulting Team, positives to Tracing Team</td>
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<td>1. PCP 2. Ambulatory COVID Resulting Team</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Asymptomatic Employees**

- **Symptomatic Employees**
- **Failed Screening, UCSD Insurance Product**
- **Failed Screening, Non-UCSD Insurance Product (i.e.: Kaiser)**
Coming Very Soon: On Line Scheduling!!!!

- **Asymptomatic Employees** (through screening tool registration)
  - Email with custom password for scheduling and link for scheduling
  - Short registration and online scheduling options for drive up testing

- **Symptomatic Employees** (through daily screening tool)
  - Phone call from Employee Testing to discuss symptoms
  - Email with custom password for scheduling and link for scheduling
  - Short registration and online scheduling options for drive up testing
Contact Tracing  (Cheryl Anderson)

• All individuals diagnosed with COVID-19 will be promptly interviewed (partnership with SDHD), close contacts elicited, and instructed to self-isolate.

• All close contacts of a person diagnosed with COVID-19 will be interviewed, encouraged to test, and instructed to quarantine.

• All Index cases and close contacts will be monitored for 14 days for COVID-19 symptoms, and to promote continued isolation/quarantine.

• Confidentiality will be maintained.
UCSD Response to Positive COVID-19 Test

• EOC and Occupational and Environmental Medicine (COEM) ensure compliance with workmen’s compensation and employee protection:
  • Medical needs & return to work clearance.
  • COEM will conduct contact tracing for UC San Diego employees - who may have been a close contact, who needs to be tested, or self-isolate.

Health Privacy Consideration: Co-workers and Supervisors of someone who tests positive for COVID-19 notified only on a need-to-know basis. Staff not contacted by COEM are not considered at risk.

EOC, Research Lead & FM = Cleaning and Disinfection as needed.
Compliance and Monitoring

• **Responsibility of all**: training and agreement to comply with lab standards

• **Precautions on signage** on doors and prominent locations in labs & research facility.

• **SHARE YOUR CONCERNS** about non-compliance:
  
  • **YOUR SETTING**- to research lead, then chair, then dean
  
  • **ANONYMOUSLY**- report via the Hotline: (800) 403-4744 – NUMBER ON SIGNS
  
  • **PLEASE LET US KNOW** (blink.ucsd.edu/spo

  research@ucsd.edu)

  • **Reports WILL BE ADDRESSED**; EH&S review and determination of sanitization needs
COMMON ISSUE: Need to Amend to my plan

Contact researchadmin@ucsd.edu

• **Minor adjustments** do not require resubmission or additional review; your update will be attached to your plan for you

• Any **social distancing, density, necessary PPE or risk mitigation**, do require resubmission and review.

• **Do not start a new submission for any amendments** - send request to researchadmin@ucsd.edu to prevent duplicate submissions.
Coming This Week: Standards for 1:1 Training

**Research Continuity Task Force** has developed Standard Practices to ensure safety for 1:1 training

- **Researcher completes new Training Safety Form & emails to** [researchadmin@ucsd.edu](mailto:researchadmin@ucsd.edu) **for attachment to your plan**
- **EHS will review** any training plans that do not follow new standard guidelines
- **New form, guidelines available at Research Ramp Up Website this week**
GOOD NEWS: OMB M-20-26 Flexibilities

1. Allowability of Salaries and Other Project Activities
   - Until 9/30/2020
   - “Awarding agencies must require recipients to maintain appropriate records and cost documentation”
   - Awarding agencies must inform recipients “to exhaust other available funding sources” to sustain its workforce and reduce overall operational costs, and “recipients should retain documentation of their efforts”
   - “Payroll costs paid with [...] Federal CARES Act programs must not be also charged to current Federal awards.”

Each funding agency will need to issue guidance on how it will be implementing the memo.

- Through 12/31/2020
- Agencies may allow grantees to delay submissions for 3 or 6 months, depending on existing due date.
- “This extension does not require individual recipients and subrecipients to seek approval for the extension by the cognizant or oversight agency for audit; however, recipients and subrecipients should maintain documentation of the reason for the delayed filing.”

Bottom Line Advice:
“Each federal agency has different authorities - might not be complete uniformity between agencies, components of agencies, and even between programs. Safest course of action - contact the grants manager and program officer for the award to determine how the financial assistance award will be treated.”
Federal Alerts: International Students, Postdocs, and Scholars

Roark Miller, Director, International Faculty & Scholars Office (IFSO)
Brittany Whiting, Export Control Officer
Angela Phillips Diaz, Executive Director, Government Research Relations
VISAS AND TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

**Routine Visa Services at U.S. Consulates** suspended worldwide

- Exceptions: health care providers and COVID researchers

**Presidential Proclamation** (May 28th) **Suspends entry** to the U.S. of non-citizens/permanent residents physically present in selected countries within the 14-day period prior to attempted entry to the U.S.

**IMPACT TO UCSD:**

- New int’l students/researchers/faculty outside the U.S. prevented from coming to UCSD without a visa stamp, with ramifications for employment in the fall
- Current int’l students/researchers/faculty risk inability to return if they depart
Suspension of entry as Nonimmigrants of Certain Students and Researchers from People’s Republic of China

**F-1 and J-1 graduate students, postdocs and researchers (NOT UNDERGRADUATES)**

- Affiliations with institutions supporting Chinese military-civil fusion (MCF) strategy
- Possible revocation of visas for current Chinese students/postdocs/researchers

**MILITARY-CIVIL FUSION (MCF) strategy:**

- Concerted effort to enhance Peoples’ Liberation Army by acquiring intellectual property, key research and technological advances throughout the world
- U.S. Dept of State will not list of institutions, but references Chinese Defense University Tracker: [https://unitracker.aspi.org.au/](https://unitracker.aspi.org.au/)

**IMPACT TO UCSD:** Difficult to predict who may be denied visas based on affiliation

- If U.S. Dept of State revokes visa, Dept of Homeland Security could remove individual
Suspension of entry of Immigrants and Nonimmigrants Who Present a Risk to the US Labor Market (Presidential Proclamation 10052)

• Effective 6/24/2020 – 12/31/2020

• Persons outside of the U.S. and with no valid visa stamp in affected category (e.g. H-1B, L-1, certain Js)

• Does NOT impact F-1 OPT

• Does NOT impact J-1 categories used at UCSD (Scholar, Professor, Student)

• Does NOT prevent those already in US from changing to H-1B status

IMPACT TO UCSD:

• New faculty/postdoc/researchers hired from abroad in H-1B status cannot enter the U.S.

• Less attractive visa classification options for recruiting from abroad
ADVOCACY

➢ The suspension of these visas is a significant, high-priority issue.
➢ UC San Diego, UC Federal Governmental Relations, higher education associations, and business & industry leaders engaging with the Administration and Congress.
The discoveries and contributions of international students, scholars, and researchers have made our country economically stronger, safer, and more competitive and successful.”

5/30 Message to Members of Congress

“Suspending new visas in these areas will hamstring our economic recovery and diminish our standing as the world’s most innovative economy.”

6/22 Statement

"Immigrants working in the technology industry are vital to sustaining promising recovery trends." Following 6/22 Proclamation

“At a time when our nation faces tremendous challenges to prevent, treat, and cure individuals suffering from covid-19, limiting researchers and professionals that would otherwise make vital contributions at hospital and research systems would be detrimental to our nation.”

To Congress & Administration

“At this critical juncture in our nation’s history, the ability to continue to sustain [a highly skilled, college-educated, science and engineering] workforce pipeline is in America’s national interest.”

6/5 Letter from Dean’s Advisory Council to the Administration
CAMPUS RESOURCES

• International Student Issues:
  • Dulce Dorado, Director, International Students & Programs Office (ISPO) ddorado@ucsd.edu
  • International Students & Programs Office: https://istudents.ucsd.edu
  • Immigration Policy Updates: https://ispo.ucsd.edu/news/immigration-policy.html

• International Scholar Issues:
  • Roark Miller, Director, International Faculty & Scholars Office (IFSO) rtmiller@ucsd.edu
  • International Faculty & Scholars Office: https://ifso.ucsd.edu
  • Jennifer Bourque, Office of Postdoctoral & Research Scholar Affairs jbourque@ucsd.edu

• Export Control Issues:
  • Brittany Whiting, Director; export@ucsd.edu

• Federal Government Relations Issues:
  • Angela Diaz, Executive Director, Government Research Relations, apdiaz@ucsd.edu
Cybersecurity: Developing Herd Immunity at UC San Diego

Michael Corn, Chief Information Security Officer
EXAMPLE: RESEARCH LABS (UCSD HAS 1500)
HERD IMMUNITY PROTECTS CYBERINFRASTRUCTURE
Define and publish a “Cybersecurity Baseline” standard based around CMMC L1

- Ensure and encourage common security controls (e.g., anti-malware software, regular patching) and record-keeping
- Provide visibility for early detection of compromises critical for response & remediation
- Education of IT staff is critical! Simple security measures and basic record keeping are important

Require labs to self-certify compliance with the UC San Diego Baseline Assessment

- Ensure Labs and distributed IT assets are identified with local accountability
  - Local IT teams and labs, working with central IT, can improve their cybersecurity
- Shift the culture to pro-active cybersecurity management, periodic assessment and continuous improvement & prepare for Federal imposition of CMMC standards
- Contribute to a competitive advantage for UCSD researchers on some grant applications
program roll-out: three tiers of certification

• **Tier 1: Self-certification** using internally developed self-assessment tool (lower risk labs/units)
  • A random sample will undergo technical review

• **Tier 2: Self-certification with internal review** (medium risk labs/units)
  • Tied to overall risk and for research, federal funding size
  • Review will be done by a peer review group of division IT leaders, CISO office, a faculty rep
  • A random sample will undergo technical review

• **Tier 3: Independent 3rd party assessment** for high risk areas (CMMC level 3)

• **Key next steps**
  • We will be distributing short-term cybersecurity guidance this week and the self-assessment tools in July 2020
  • By June 2021: complete certification and review of all high and medium risk areas
  • Certification requirements will be added to proposal data management plans during proposal submission
  • The self-assessment review group will be activated in July 2020
Q&A
On the call to answer questions today:

Continuity of Research Task Force Chairs: Miroslav Krstic and Jim McKerrow
Return to Learn, Contact Tracing: Chip Schooley, Cheryl Anderson
COVID-19 Symptom Screening and Testing: Christopher Longhurst, Brendan Kremer
International Students and Scholars: Roark Miller, Dulce Dorado, Dean James Antony, Jennifer Bourque
Cybersecurity: Michael Corn

Animal Care: Phil Richter
EH&S: Lance Scott
Facilities Management: Steven Jackson
Government Relations: Angela Phillips Diaz
Graduate Students: Dean James Antony
Human Resources: Terri Winbush

IRB/Human Subjects Research: Kip Kantelo, Eric Mah
Parking: Josh Kavanaugh
Postdoctoral & Research Scholar Affairs: Jennifer Oh Bourque
Procurement: Todd Adams, Ted Johnson
Research Compliance & Integrity: Angie McMahill
Research Ramp Up Platform: Faith Hawkins, Ayla Nejad
Current number of researchers on campus: 4,600

Welcome Kits
- 616 delivered to researchers.
- 9 pending delivery.
- 338 available for delivery.

Items included in kits:
- Gloves (L): 1,679
- Reusable Masks (PA): 735
- Disposable Masks (PA): 735

PPE Orders
- 369 orders placed.

Order Status:
- 369
- Open
- Picked
- Delivered

Top Departments
- Psychiatry: 38 orders
- Biology: 24 orders
- Medicine: 60 orders

PPE Items Fulfilled
- COVIDPPE1000: 703 Packs
  - 3-Ply Blue Disposable earloop non-surgical face mask, 50/Pack
- COVIDPPE1005: 376 Boxes
  - Nitrile gloves - medium, 4 mil, 9.5" cuff, powder-free, textured, 200/Box
- COVIDPPE1002: 224 Packs
  - N95 respirator, 20/Pack
- COVIDPPE1006: 216 Boxes
  - Nitrile gloves - large, 4 mil, 9.5" cuff, powder-free, textured, 100/Box
- COVIDPPE1004: 186
  - Nitrile gloves - small, 4 mil, 9.5" cuff, powder-free, textured, 100/Box
- COVIDPPE1009: COVIDPPE: Maxim garmiddel
- COVIDPPE1007: Nitrile gloves - extra

Procurement
Todd Adams
Full dashboard available on Blink: [Maintaining a Healthy Supply Chain During COVID](#)