

June 17, 2020

To all our participants,

The GyRL lab is taking every necessary precaution to ensure the safety and health of our participants and research staff due to the global spread of COVID-19. As we begin to schedule study visits, we are committed to doing so as responsibly and safely as possible. We have modified certain policies and procedures after careful consideration of the situation, and accounting for newly introduced requirements for the safety and protection of all involved.

Prior to research visits, we will be asking all participants to confirm in writing that they do not have any NEW onset of the following symptoms:

- Fever $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$
- Cough, congestion, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath
- Muscle aches with flu-like symptoms
- Loss/decrease of taste or smell
- Chills or shaking chills
- Headache, diarrhea, nausea, decreased appetite, or any GI symptoms
- Tested COVID-19 positive in the last 14 days
- Contact with a person quarantined or confirmed with COVID-19 in the past 14 days.

If a participant responds “yes” to any of these questions, the visit will be postponed and rescheduled to a later date. In addition, participants will be referred to the community health hotline at 847.432.5849

We also expect participants to monitor for the symptoms above and email us if any develop prior to the visit. The participant will be instructed to wear a mask/face covering over their nose and mouth at all times when in the hospital. We will provide masks for anyone who arrives without one. All lab team members will wear a standard mask at all times as well.

On the day of the research visit, participants will be screened upon arrival (as is policy at Evanston Hospital) for temperature and the questions above. Adult studies will not be allowed any visitors, while the Teen Research Study may have one parent/caregiver present who will also need to pass the screening and must wear a face covering.

For the majority of the visit, we will limit the number of people in the research room to 2. There are a few procedures that require the additional help of a 3rd person. A third person will be allowed in the room only when necessary. We will do our best to maintain 6 ft of separation from each other.

To maintain optimal environmental hygiene, visits will be scheduled so there will be at least an hour in between to allow for adequate cleaning time. Our staff will perform hand hygiene and don gloves upon entering the room. All sheets and pillowcases will be removed after each participant and **all** surfaces in the room will be cleaned with disinfectant wipes, allowing for the dwell/contact time indicated on the container. Once the room is disinfected, our staff will remove and dispose of their gloves and perform hand hygiene.

We promise to continue doing all we can to help navigate these uncertain times so that each participant feels safe and supported.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Tu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some loops and flourishes.

The GyRL team and Dr. Frank Tu