THE ASSOCIATION OF FACULTIES OF MEDICINE OF CANADA
L'ASSOCIATION DES FACULTÉS DE MÉDECINE DU CANADA

AFMC Return to Research Guidelines

1. **Faculty, Staff and Research Trainee safety is paramount.**
2. **The COVID-19 environment must be stable and decreasing in prevalence and any decisions should be in compliance with Federal and Provincial Public Health Guidelines.**
3. **Faculty, Staff and Research Trainees should remain off-site unless actively conducting research.**
4. **Faculty and Departments can shut down laboratories, floors or buildings as required.**
5. **Faculties will work collaboratively with their VP Research to oversee re-opening research.**

Parameters for re-opening and sustaining open University Research Programs in time of COVID-19

1. **Sustained low prevalence or declining COVID-19 prevalence in the community**
   Rationale – defines a state where COVID-19 is no longer a spreading epidemic

2. **Daily screen for risk exposure review, symptoms, and temperature check prior to going on site**
   Rationale – allows one to screen for active infection in a person
   Strategies include:
   i) Self-monitoring at home and daily log
   ii) Limit access point for building access – Individuals screened for risk exposure, symptoms +/- temperature at point of entry with power to deny entry

3. **Rapid availability (i.e. <24hours) COVID-19 testing on risk exposed or symptomatic people**
   Rationale – allows one to r/o active infection in a person (i.e. assumes system capacity)

4. **Minimize or eliminate COVID-19 exposure to and from the work environment**
   Rationale – allows one to avoid contaminating both home and work environments
   Strategies include:
   i) Minimizing public transit and car pooling
   ii) PPE – even self-made masks

5. **Maintain a COVID-19 free environment in offices and laboratories**
   Rationale – need to have all faculty, staff, research trainees and research environments to be reliably COVID-19 free *Strategies include*:
   i) Physical distancing and regular hand washing
   ii) Staggered staff at work (i.e. if not in lab should be off campus)
   iii) Limiting who can be in lunch space at a given time to ensure physical distancing
   iv) Wiping down surfaces before and after use (i.e. lunchroom, conference room, lab bench)

6. **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) use in the offices and laboratories as recommended by Public Health Guidelines**