

**From:** University\_News  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2020 2:17 PM  
**To:** University\_News  
**Subject:** Research at Rush University: COVID-19 Update

**Rush University**

# COVID-19 Update

To: All Faculty  
From: University Command Center  
Subj: Research at Rush University: COVID-19 Update

One of the strongest recommendations to contain the COVID-19 pandemic is to encourage that individuals practice social distancing. To support that method, Rush University has migrated in-person classes to be delivered remotely for our approximately 2700 students. We also cancelled or postponed University and are strongly encouraging virtual solutions for all educational or business meetings. Additionally managers of non-faculty university staff have been instructed to allow all non-essential employees to work remotely as appropriate, maintaining only essential staff on-campus.

We are aware that this is also affecting the University research community and the labs in Cohn, Jelke, and Armour. To assist in this effort, we are asking that you also take certain precautions:

- Please limit the number of individuals on campus in research laboratories to “essential” personnel only, as defined by the department chair in collaboration with the principal investigator. Essential personnel may include workers taking care of mice, cell lines, and checking on essential lab functions including refrigerators, freezers and other responsibilities.
- All other lab personnel must work remotely until further notice.

Investigators with active clinical trials may continue to see clinical trial patients for the time being. However the Rush [visitor restriction policy](#) applies to patients in these trials, meaning a patient cannot have a visitor accompany them.

The National Institute of Health is well aware of the issues we are facing and we expect more information from them early next week.

We are planning a virtual town hall for the research community sometime next week to answer questions and provide clarification. Of course these policies may change as the pandemic evolves, and we will keep you updated.