



# Memorandum

To: Animal facility occupants  
From: David Hanwell, University Veterinarian and Director, Animal Ethics and Compliance  
CC:  
Date: October 30, 2020  
Re: Additional guidance re: COVID and working in an animal facility

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These COVID-related scenarios are to provide further guidance to animal facility occupants

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## **If I am working < 2m from someone for prolonged periods of time (> 15 min), how do I protect myself?**

Refrain from working <2 m from others unless it is a necessary part of the task (e.g. close observation during training). A surgical mask is to be worn as protection whenever space is shared where > 2m distance cannot be maintained. If this is sustained for a prolonged period, a face shield is to also be worn with the mask for added protection or, *if a face shield is not possible due to the nature of the task, a respirator (e.g. fit-tested N95 mask) is to be used in place of a surgical mask.*

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**What if I am informed that I have been in close contact with someone that is now self-isolating? Do I have to immediately self-isolate as a precaution?**

If you are identified as a close contact through contact tracing you will be provided guidance by public health and/or the University's occupational health nurse (OHN). If you have not been contacted, continue working and self-monitor. Follow directions as per [Ucheck](#) self-assessment tool. Contact OHN ([occhealth@utoronto.ca](mailto:occhealth@utoronto.ca)) if you have any specific concerns.

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