

Caring for You During Your Research Visit

The staff at the **Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment at BWH** taking safety very seriously. This is why we are taking extra steps to ensure that when you come for a research visit, all necessary precautions have been taken to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection. We will do our part to prevent infection, and we also ask you to do your part as well.

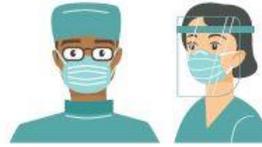
What We Will Do



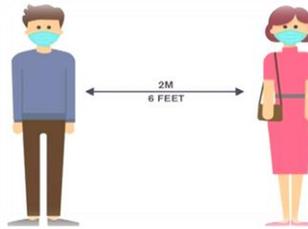
- Screen our staff for symptoms of COVID-19 prior to starting each shift.



- Limiting the number of research participants in our office, by reducing the number of appointments per day and avoiding overlapping time slots.
- Take you straight to an exam room or testing room to start your visit.



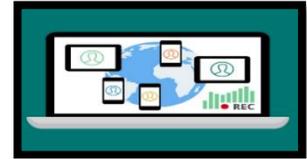
- Wear masks and appropriate personal protective equipment as needed throughout your visit.



- When possible, we will maintain a distance of 6 ft.



- Sanitize exam and testing rooms before and after each visit.
- Clean public areas frequently.



- Conduct as much of the study visit as possible remotely via Zoom or phone.
- Utilize plexiglass barriers during assessments that are required to be completed in a room with a staff member in person.

What We Will Ask You to Do When You Visit



- You will be called 24-72 hours prior to your visit to screen for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Upon your arrival, you will check into the main Neuroscience waiting room, and staff member will screen you and your study partner for COVID-19 symptoms. You will have your temperature taken in an exam room at CART.



- Upon check-in at Neurosciences main waiting room, you will be given a hospital issued face mask. Please wear this face mask throughout the visit, unless instructed otherwise by staff member.
- As needed, study staff will provide you with appropriate personal protective equipment.



- To minimize overlapping visits, please expect to be taken at the time of your scheduled appointment, and not earlier even if you arrive early.

If you have concerns about your research visit, please reach out to Nicole Chan (nchan4@bwh.harvard.edu) or Danielle Lavey (dlavey@bwh.harvard.edu).

Please let us know what we can do to help you feel more comfortable with completing your research visit.

Please refer to the following pages for detailed changes in study visit flow.

Thank you for your help with our new operations!

Adapted from the Center for Cognitive Medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Your Visit at HBTM 60 Fenwood Rd - New

1. A staff will call you or your study partner one day prior to your visit to review your medications and medical history over the phone.
2. When arriving onsite, please call us at 617-732-8085 before you proceed to our office. A staff member will confirm you are all set to proceed to our office, or potentially wait in your car.
3. Please wear a mask before entering the hospital, and from elevators, please enter Neuroscience Center waiting room, on the 1st Floor
4. **Check in** with staff in main waiting room (do not head straight to CART), and inform the front staff you are here for research. You will be asked for only for your name (your information is not in the hospital clinical system).



5. You will be asked several COVID symptoms screening questions and be given a sticker to wear for the duration of your visit. If your study partner is accompanying you, he/she will also be asked the screening questions and be given a sticker as well. You will be given a BWH issued mask.
6. Clean your hands with the hand sanitizing gel/foam, remove your personal mask, and apply your hospital issued face mask. You should wear this mask over your nose and mouth for the entire duration of your study visit.
7. Proceed to CART, and Danielle or Nicole will direct you to the exam room or testing room designated to start your visit.
8. Your temperature will be taken before proceeding with your study visit.
9. Please note that we will not be offering water/coffee/tea during your visit, so please come hydrated. At this time, we are not able to allow eating or drinking during study testing or infusions because we do not want you to remove your mask. Per hospital infection control guidelines, we are strongly encouraging you not to remove your face mask during your study visit unless absolutely necessary.

Your MRI Visit at HBTM 60 Fenwood Rd

1. Please wear a mask before entering the hospital, and from elevators, please enter L2 MRI floor.
 2. If you are uncomfortable with waiting in the waiting room, you may wait in your car, but turn your cell phone ringers ON, and an MRI staff will call your cell when they are ready for you.
 3. For your MRI, you will be given a cone mask to wear without the metal strip.
- Some notes about MRI department's safety procedures:
 - The MRI facility has not and will not scan anyone that is considered to be COVID Risk. If a scheduled patient is determined to be COVID risk during a prescreen, he/or she is rescheduled for at least 2 weeks out to ensure the safety for all.
 - MRI schedules are staggered out between our 5 scanners to allow for social distancing, and the waiting room currently reflects the same initiatives. All of the chairs are placed 6 feet apart.
 - The scanners are cleaned inside and out and are set to leave our cleaners on for 5 minutes before placing another patient on the table. Prep rooms all have stop/go signs on them so that we can practice the same hygiene in the prep rooms. Housekeeping is making frequent rounds in the hallways, bathrooms, common areas, and changing rooms to ensure all hospital hygiene standards are being met.

Your PET Visit at MGH 55 Fruit Street

You will be screened for symptoms via phone 24-72 hours prior to your PET scan by a BWH CART staff, if positive for symptom screen, you will be rescheduled no less than 14 days post initial appointment date and they must be symptom free for a minimum of 3 consecutive days prior to rescheduled start time.

Some notes about MGH PET's safety procedures:

- Universal masking of all individuals entering MGH premises.
- Symptom screening -
 - For employees, with enforcement of no on-site work while sick.
 - For visitors, vendors, contractors as we are currently doing.
 - For all patients, pre-visit and in person.
- Minimized density of patients, employees, and visitors to allow for physical distancing:
 - Visitor Policy: limit number of visitors per visitor policy, screen all visitors for symptoms, excluding symptomatic visitors and masking all visitors; Existing visitor policy will be updated over time with guidance from public health authorities. Currently only impaired participants will be allowed to bring a single visitor with them to their study visit per MGH visitor policy.
 - Participants: organized physical space and work-flows to allow for physical distancing in waiting rooms and clinical areas
 - Employees: organize work settings, including research, to allow for physical distancing
 - Limits on size of gatherings will be imposed by Massachusetts regulations. Currently the limit is no more than 10 individuals in a room.
- Expanded virtual visits & consenting to reduce on-site patient volume.
- Ventilation systems continue to be maintained for adequate air- flow so that viral particles cannot linger.
- Frequent routine cleaning throughout the department both to decrease transmission via fomites, and to provide reassurance to staff, participants, and visitors.
- Daily cleaning logs and sign offs as well as signage to aid in assuring the utmost cleanliness of clinical care areas.
- Routine cleaning of all high touch surfaces between patients, including exam tables and chairs. If existing surfaces/equipment are difficult to clean we've replaced with more easily cleanable options.
- Minimize equipment and supplies in rooms; ensure reusable equipment is cleaned and disinfected between participants.