Standard Operating Procedures
General MRI Scanning
Stanford Lucas Center for Imaging
April 24, 2023

Introduction:

These comments are responsive to guidelines issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Stanford EH&S. The Lucas Center is designated as a healthcare facility inasmuch as patients can be participants in research MRI studies conducted therein. As such, vigorous Covid-instigated policies have been employed to safeguard users and residents of the Center.

Briefly, the CDPH guidelines state that masking is **strongly recommended**, but not required for participants and operators, especially vulnerable people:

Everyone: *Wearing a mask is recommended in indoor public places.* ***Vulnerable people*:*** *Wearing a mask is strongly recommended in indoor public places. If you have household or social contact with a vulnerable person*, wearing a mask is recommended when indoors with them.*	***For all staff and patients:*** *Wearing a mask is strongly recommended.*

* Including the unvaccinated, those that are immunocompromised, have certain disabilities, or have underlying health conditions, and those at risk of severe illness of death if they are infected with COVID-19. Such persons should consider taking extra precautions.

Procedures:

1. Registering scan participants in the lobby Redcap system is no longer required. You must maintain IRB-approved policies.

2. Normal scanning procedures are employed with the exception that facial masking is recommended for both scan operators/personnel as well as participants but not required. If masks are utilized by scan participants, they must employ the MRI-safe masks supplied by the Lucas Center. Normal masks may have magnetizable metal straps that will heavily distort MR neuroimages.

3. Disinfection after human scanning remains required for now. Please allow sufficient time for a brief disinfection of the scanner/components (e.g. coils, button box, respiratory belt, pulse-ox, padding), without impinging on the next scheduled user's slot. Set the bore fan on low when leaving.