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From: IACUC Key Personnel <IACUCKEYPERSONNEL@list.uvm.edu> on behalf of Rapoza, Keirsten <keirsten.rapoza@MED.UVM.EDU>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2020 6:01 AM
To: IACUCKEYPERSONNEL@LIST.UVM.EDU
Subject: PPE conservation

Hello, Researchers,

As you are probably aware, personal protective equipment (PPE) is in extremely short supply. Our suppliers have been rationing orders and we are running low on many items, especially face masks. We must all work together to minimize the amount of PPE that we are consuming. We have listed here several things that everyone should try to do to help:

- **Limit your visits** to the animal facility by clustering your duties on specific days (i.e. every other day visits) when possible; if you need to enter the facility multiple times in the same day, please save and re-wear your PPE (not gloves).
- **Limit the number of lab members** entering the animal facility—multiple lab members should not gown up to go into animal rooms if your work can be completed by one lab member.
- If you are working in HSRF and then in Given, **save your PPE from HSRF to wear in Given** (remove before walking through corridors).
- If you find a **damaged PPE item (especially masks with broken ear-loops)** please set aside for OACM to repair. Ear loops can be re-glued.
- DO NOT cover cages on carts with new gowns; **cages should be covered with your used gown or a sheet/towel.**
- **DO NOT take PPE from the Animal Facility** for use elsewhere; there has been an increase in “missing” PPE in recent weeks.
- **Enlist OACM to help**—we are already in the facility and can take care of most tasks (weaning, separating, breeding, etc.) for a reduced fee.
- If you are entering a room just to retrieve a cage or quickly check something, please ask Animal Care for help—someone that is already gowned up can likely assist you.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this serious issue. If everyone can adopt the above recommendations it will ensure that we have enough PPE to get through this shortage.

All the best,

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