Given the clear risks regarding exposure to COVID-19, all clinical research studies including human participants should immediately develop and implement a plan for remote data collection (if possible), and discontinue all in-person study visits for the next 30 days. Implementation of these changes must be made rapidly, and no later than COB Wednesday. Note that the IRB will need to be notified regarding protocol changes. We recognize that some studies may need to continue in-person data collection, though that should be rare and only occur after consideration of personal and population health risks. Note that study staff and students will likewise be working remotely, so that must be taken into consideration. Helping students complete their degree is a very high priority, so faculty overseeing student research projects must develop approaches to help them complete their work in some fashion to best assure their academic success. Exceptions must be discussed with and approved by Dr. Leischow, who will seek additional medical or academic guidance as needed.

If you have a student at risk of not graduating due to stoppage of human participants research, we are developing a list of data sets that may be available in some fields or from some faculty. Please let Stavros Kavouras know if no options are available, and we will try to problem solve other options.

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