To ensure research safety during this time, we are relying on advice from CDC and Prisma Health. Please review information you are receiving from Prisma Health Hospital Incident Management Team each day.

Effective immediately, contact with research participants should be limited to physicians, APPs, nurses, medical assistants and critical research staff with appropriate screening training. Until further notice, elective research protocols should no longer involve direct patient or participant contact. Participant and patient interactions (e.g., study visit, care coordination) can continue virtually (including text, phone and web-based as appropriate).

NOTE: Some trials may need to proceed to ensure medical continuity. Research visits that cannot be performed remotely and are essential to a participant’s health and/or well-being may be performed in person. Please ensure that these subjects are appropriately screened. See the ATTACHED SCREENING GUIDELINES.

Treatment protocols may require some adjustment to IRB approved processes resulting from transition to virtual visits and alteration of procedures. Any change to a protocol relative to COVID-19 should be documented as a note to the research file as well as to the participants EPIC records. Most of these changes do not require IRB approval under current circumstances but should be reported to IRB through standard report mechanisms as time allows. Serious, unexpected, adverse events must be reported per existing regulatory requirements.

Please work directly with research team members on plans for research programs and encourage adjustments to processes to ensure appropriate social distancing.

Most importantly, please visit this Prisma Health webpage which will guide you through decision-making if you have flu-like symptoms or feel you have come in contact with a potential COVID-19 infected person.

For updates on the evolving status of COVID-19 cases within South Carolina please visit SC DHEC.

Inspire health. Serve with compassion. Be the difference.