
COVID-19 & OTHER HEALTH GUIDANCE

In order to promote a healthy and safe Retreat environment, it is an appropriate time to remind ourselves of the risks associated with participating in large group gatherings. WIBR will follow the guidance and requirements of the CDC, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Seacrest Hotel and Conference Center, and other local regulations regarding COVID-19 safety.

Stay Home if You Don't Feel Well or Have COVID-19 Symptoms/Test Before Travel

We recommend attendees take a COVID-19 rapid antigen test the morning of the Retreat, before traveling. (If you need a test, you may obtain one at the WIBR front desk.) Do not attend if you test positive. If you do not feel well or exhibit COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms, regardless of your antigen test results, please stay home to protect the health and safety of your colleagues.

If you are exposed to someone with COVID-19 within the two weeks before the Retreat, follow the CDC's recommendations for [what to do if you are exposed](#). This includes wearing a high-quality mask when indoors around others (including inside your home) for 10 days, testing, and monitoring yourself for symptoms.

If you have COVID-19 or flu-like symptoms once you arrive at the Retreat, please stay in your room, contact retreat-help@wi.mit.edu, and we'll have an antigen test delivered to you. If you test positive for COVID-19 during the Retreat, notify [Whitehead Human Resources](#) immediately. You cannot continue to participate in any meetings or social activities associated with the Retreat. Please isolate in your room and arrangements will be made for you to move to a new living space, if necessary, and/or to secure appropriate transportation back to your home.

Personal Accountability While at the Retreat

We will have hand sanitizer, face masks, and rapid antigen tests available throughout the Retreat. While not required, we recommend Retreat attendees wear a face mask indoors in common areas. That said, the decision whether or not to wear a mask is up to each attendee. We expect all Retreat attendees will demonstrate empathy and respect for the health concerns and comfort levels of others.

Within the design of Retreat conference sessions, eating spaces, and whenever possible, we will offer distanced seating sections to accommodate various levels of choices and comfort. "To Go" containers will be available for who prefers to eat in a more private area.

Notification if Someone Tests Positive at the Retreat

As soon as practical after receiving notification that an attendee has tested positive at the Retreat, we will communicate via email to Retreat attendees.

We are all aware the COVID-19 situation is fluid. We will continue to monitor updates from the CDC and may revise this guidance to remain in compliance with CDC guidelines and/or in response to levels of community transmission at the time of the Retreat. Please be prepared to comply with any such changes. We will communicate them as clearly and promptly as possible.