Hello everyone. We had a Research Associate Dean (RAD) meeting today and there are some things that I need you to know and to do!

First, please bookmark this webpage as it has a lot of information regarding research at UM and what needs to happen now. This website is being updated on pretty much an hourly basis. If you have a question that is not answered here let me know. https://research.umich.edu/covid-19

We ALL need to develop ramp down plans in case we are told that we need to shut down, or we lose resources for doing our research. Attached to this email is a checklist that I would like all PIs to fill out to make sure you are thinking about critical needs for ramping down. For some of us this process will not be difficult, but for some it will be very complex, so please feel free to call me directly at 734-355-4878 if you have any questions.

Please upload your plan into the following Mbox by Wednesday March 18th. I realize that this date is earlier than what was sent out last night, but given the conversation today, I need to tell you to anticipate that if (and most likely when) we receive instructions about shutting down our labs, we will get about 24-48 hours’ notice to do so. Please spend tomorrow working on this process. Please also let me know if you have issues accessing the MBox.

https://umich.box.com/s/jjn55ix76yycgctgpr5tl76ylfp13ol

I have also found out that if (or when) we are told to ramp down, that direction will come from one of the executive officers at the University (president, provost, or VP for research), and that hopefully I will get advanced notice. However, that may not occur, so please keep a look out for emails regarding this notification. University leadership is trying to learn from others in different states (ie. California and New York) and so please pay attention to this request so that we can have safe disruptions to our research activities. Again my cell is 734-355-4878 in case you have any questions. I can assure you that I will not have all the answers, but will work with you to get them.

IMPORTANT POINTS FROM PREVIOUS EMAILS:
Human subjects research has pretty much stopped or should have stopped, unless you have ways to interact with subjects that does not involve direct contact

For those of you doing animal research please make sure to identify up to 20% of animals assigned to your protocol(s) that you consider most critical to save (“high-priority preserve”) in the highly unlikely event that circumstances require selective de-population. Any requests beyond that threshold must be approved by the ULAM Executive Director/U-M Attending Veterinarian in consultation with an IACUC Subcommittee.
Also for those of you with liquid nitrogen tanks, I have been told that the medical school is committed to having enough resources to maintain these tanks, but you do need a person that is responsible for their maintenance (please include in your ramp down plans). You can use EHS as a backup but they will not refill or change tanks. They can only let people into the labs to do this.

Again please upload your ramp down plans by Wednesday March 18th even if you plan is everything will abruptly stop.

Thanks

Vicki

Vicki L. Ellingrod, PharmD, FCCP
Associate Dean for Research and John Gideon Searle Professor of Clinical and Translational Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy
Professor of Psychiatry and Adjunct Professor of Psychology
Associate Director, Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research (MICHR) and Director of the Education and Mentoring Group
University of Michigan
428 Church Street
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109
Office: 734-615-4728