



Facilitating On Site Research Monitoring Visits during COVID-19

When on-site monitoring visits are permitted to be facilitated with the NICRF the following guidance should be adhered to:

- On-site monitors to avail of the Universities free asymptomatic lateral flow testing prior to a planned monitoring visit either the study co-ordinator or *appointee* should send agreement for completion by sponsor.
- Where this agreement can't be signed off by sponsor, monitors should have a LFD test 12-24 h before entering the NICRF i.e. evening before or morning of visit, and retain record.
- Facilitation of on-site monitoring visits should be based on a local risk assessment taking into consideration the available department facilities to host an onsite monitoring visit, whilst meeting COVID guidelines.
- Monitors travelling to the NICRF should ensure their travel is in compliance with all relevant current COVID-19 government guidelines and regulations at the time of the visit.
- All visits should be pre-arranged with the study team and approved by the Principal Investigator.
- Any monitor showing or experiencing the symptoms of COVID-19 or any other infection should not visit, even if these symptoms are mild and unconfirmed. In these circumstances the individual should remain at home and follow the latest public health advice on self-isolation and testing.

Conduct During the Monitoring Visit

- All monitors are required to wear a face mask entering and walking through the hospital environment.
- Monitors will be required to supply their own face mask and will not be permitted to enter the hospital without it. Where social distancing permits face masks can be removed while working at desk or eating.
- Monitors will be required to adhere to 2 metre social distancing requirements during their visit.
- Monitors should follow any local department COVID requirements, such as following floor marking when walking within the department and hand sanitisation.
- Monitors work station should be been cleaned prior to arrival and at the end of their visit.