Instrumentation Facility Covid-19 Related Safety Protocols

In order to limit the number of people coming in contact with the commonly shared surfaces in our facility, we have implemented a series of protocols to help keep instrumentation staff and researchers as safe as possible.

Gloves

All users are expected to provide and wear a clean pair of gloves before operating any instrumentation located in our facility.

Normal Operating hours (8am-4:30pm)

Between the hours of 8am and 4:30 pm we expect each research group to assign a single instrument operator for any given day. Each of our instrument stations has a bottle of sanitization solution and either a cloth or paper towel available for sanitization. Please follow the sanitization protocol described below.

Outside of Normal Operating Hours (before 8am and after 4:30 pm)

Because we know that there are fewer researchers operating outside of these time frames, we are willing to be a little more flexible. Any user from a group may operate the instrumentation between 4:30pm and 8:00am the next morning. We do require that you follow the sanitization protocol detailed below.

Exceptions

Exceptions will be made on a case by case basis. The most prominent examples are for people doing longer experiments, such as variable temperature, kinetics experiments, or all day on the EPR. In this case since there is only person handling the instrument for a prolonged period, we have agreed to allow this to be a person in addition to the regular group designated user.

Sanitization

Prior to operating any instrument in our facility, we ask that researchers:

- wash their hands, either with hand sanitizer from the stations in the hall, or using the soap and water and sinks in many of our labs.
- Use the provided disinfecting solution (70% ethanol in water) and the provided cloths to wipe down any and all high touch surfaces. This can include the desk area, keyboards, mice, chair handles, depth gauges and BSMS keyboards. Essentially, anything that you will need to touch before you run your experiment should be wiped down.

*** Be careful not to use too much cleaning solution, as too much can damage electronics such as keyboards and mice***