**Imaging Equipment and Trainings**

The OPTIC core imaging equipment tends to be a nexus for all the users that are utilizing the equipment. It is very important that you follow the following guidelines for your health and safety as best as possible going forward for the short term.

1. Trained users will still have the ability to use the equipment at their discretion for all critical experiments that are still ongoing during this process.
2. I ask that everyone be vigilant about cleaning the equipment and the places that they have been working even more than I normally ask. Use our Protex spray, or if you prefer the supplied Clidox, very liberally both before and especially after use. Be mindful of trying to remember the areas that you touched and worked. This is out of an abundance of caution for both you and your colleagues.
3. For the time being, new trainings will be postponed for the short term. I will keep a list of those that would like to be trained and communicate with them directly in regards to this.
4. If you are planning studies for after our return to full time status at work, please contact OPTIC (contact information below) and we will teleconference to discuss your needs, how we can assist your research and to make sure that is prepared and ready to go so we can hit the ground running.

**PDX Studies**

Patient Derived Xenograft studies that have been already received will be continued on their individual progress. New patients will be decided on an individual basis by staffing availability and scheduling. If you are planning or would like to plan a set of PDX studies that is critical during this time, please contact OPTIC (contact information below) and we will teleconference to discuss your needs, how we can assist your research and to discuss how feasible it is.

**Precision Therapeutics**

In conversation with both ICM management and their planning, as well as with my core director, for the short term, NEW and NON-STARTED animal studies will be delayed. I am not 100% sure on the status of some animal orders that have already been put in, but any orders that originated outside the United States (Germany for example) are currently on suspended delivery. All ongoing studies that were in process during the ramp down were completed without any issues. OPTIC is utilizing this time to catch up on backlogged data and study reports, and individual user labs that have anything in the queue should be receiving their finalized reports within a short time.
OPTIC THOROUGHLY RECCOMENDS for labs that would like to utilize our therapeutics expertise for your animal work once we get back to please contact us (contact information below) so that we can prepare, make sure protocols are in order and supplies are in place, and that animals can be ordered in quick succession once we return so that we can get your studies rolling for you as soon as possible. We want to make sure that when we get back, that OPTIC is there to help your labs get back on their feet in the fastest way possible.

CONTACT INFORMATION

As always, if anyone has any questions or wants to begin discussion of studies or imaging projects for once we ramp up again, please feel free to reach out to me at any time, either via phone (732) 713-9911 or via email at cd2758@columbia.edu or OPTICHELP@cumc.columbia.edu.