

May 14, 2020 **UPDATED MAY 15**

## NEURO PROCEDURE

### Phases Neuro Research Ramp-up

#### PHASE 1

#### “Restart and protect” (starting on 25 May 2020)

Public health and workplace safety will be the top priority. All the safety measures described in the [McGill guidelines](#) on preventing spread of COVID-19 will be implemented.

Only the following number of research staff from each Neuro centre/unit/core/lab ('unit' hereafter), whose tasks cannot be performed from home, will be allowed to return to work, provided they can pass the triage process and are free of COVID-19 symptoms:

- **Up to a maximum of 3 individuals for units with less than 10 people**
- **Up to a maximum of 25% of staff whose tasks require presence at work for units with more than 10 people**
- 

PIs will develop a phase-1 re-entry plan based on

- i) demonstration of **compliance with safety protocols** and
- ii) research criteria. Examples of research criteria may include:
  - Feasibility of the proposed studies under the current conditions
  - Studies requiring immediate presence of staff in the lab to safeguard essential reagents
  - Continuation of long-running projects where considerable investments have already been made
  - Experiments needed for completion of studies of graduate students approaching graduation
  - Urgency to carry out specific projects, eg specific timelines for testing

PIs will be responsible for ensuring protection of workers who are at the highest risk of serious illness from COVID-19, including those with:

- chronic conditions and weakened immune system
- pulmonary conditions
- vascular conditions
- other complex conditions

PI will also be expected to consider other risk factors, including age (>70), health of family members at home, need to use public transportation to go to work.

No new studies can be initiated during phase 1.

## PHASE 2 “Ramp Up 1” (starting on 8 June 2020)

Progression to phase 2 will be conditional upon satisfactory implementation of public health and workplace safety measures and no COVID-19 cases.

Public health and workplace safety will be the top priority. All the safety measures described in the McGill guidelines on preventing spread of COVID-19 (<https://www.mcgill.ca/coronavirus/resources/directives-preventing-spread-covid-19-campus>) will continue to be implemented.

The following number of research staff (including those already part of phase 1) from each Neuro unit will be allowed to return to work, provided they can meet public health measures:

- **Up to a maximum of 5 individuals for units with less than 10 people**
- **Up to a maximum of 50% of staff whose tasks require presence at work for units with more than 10 people**

PIs will develop a phase-2 re-entry plan based on

- i) demonstration of **compliance with safety protocols** and
- ii) research criteria.

## PHASE 3 “Ramp Up 2” (starting on 22 June 2020)

Progression to phase 3 will be conditional upon satisfactory implementation of public health and workplace safety measures and no COVID-19 cases.

Start of this phase may be delayed depending on the outcome of phases 1-2.

Public health and workplace safety will be the top priority. All the safety measures described in the McGill guidelines on preventing spread of COVID-19 (<https://www.mcgill.ca/coronavirus/resources/directives-preventing-spread-covid-19-campus>) will continue to be implemented.

The following number of research staff from each Neuro unit will be allowed to return to work, provided they can meet public health measures:

- **Up to a maximum of 7 individuals for units with less than 10 people**
- **Up to a maximum of 75% of staff whose tasks require presence at work for units with more than 10 people**

PIs will develop a phase-3 re-entry plan based on i) demonstration of **compliance with safety protocols** and ii) research criteria.

## **PHASE 4 “The way we were”**

Presently, it is not possible to envision when all research activities will be allowed to restart. PIs should therefore plan phases 1-3 accordingly.

## **CORE FACILITIES**

Directors of core facilities will be responsible for submitting detailed guidelines for research resumption. These will include directives to core facility users, clear descriptions of how public safety measures will be implemented, and measures that will be put in place if cases of non-compliance occur.