

Kavli COVID-19 discussions

- Small team preparing within MKI for about 2.5 weeks now
- Thank you: everyone's response has been exemplary
- Our goal is to anticipate MIT's actions by several days so that we are not making decisions reactively. So far we are doing OK (e.g. colloquium). More to come.
- MIT has not asked us to work from home, but it would be prudent to start planning for that possibility

Why are we taking these measures?

- Protect members of our population whose health is most vulnerable
- Buy time for health industry to adapt to demand surge: tests, protective equipment, treatments
- Spread out any impact on hospitals so that supply of beds can meet instantaneous demand
- *Not* because we are expecting all of MIT to get sick, or (for example) we are overestimating the risk to young people. A healthier herd helps those most at risk

What should I do (generally)?

- **Sleep**
- Minimize physical contact - avoid < 6 feet for > 15 minutes
- Use technology to check in on friends and colleagues. As a community, let's try not to let anyone worry alone
- Avoid judging other individuals' decisions about personal safety: you never know what someone else's situation is
- Stay up-to-date but avoid consuming news and social media obsessively
- Check in with our students and postdocs

What should I do (MIT-related)?

- Register any travel and cancel international trips until May 15
- Prepare your computer configuration to work remotely, in case we are asked
- Check email for communications from MIT President or Kavli HQ
- Relevant announcements will all be collected on spacebook.mit.edu (linked from space.mit.edu)
- If you have experiments, consider putting into safe configuration now, rather than waiting to have someone else do this for you

If MIT asks employees to work from home

- See information on spacebook.mit.edu about computing and telephone tools to facilitate work from home. Practice!
- We have already identified ~10 MKI employees who are deemed critical to operations either of institute or of experiments or missions. These people be contacted within the next 24 hours and we ask that you acknowledge.
- We will work to schedule on-campus time of critical personnel and implement procedures to minimize risk of transmission consistent with CDC guidelines and whatever equipment we are able to procure
- If you are not contacted as someone who is operations-critical, we ask that you stay home and implement your remote work plan

Colloquium and Public Events

- Cancel large gatherings for ~1 month, speakers have been uniformly gracious
- Smaller events may continue, with some adjustment to catering
- Re-evaluate in mid-April based on conditions at that time

Helps to contextualize, but also reminds us to remain vigilant

- Statistics don't help if you are the one at risk
- We know of cases in our communities and must empathize
- This outlook depends on keeping the infection rate low!
- Questions?