

ASP2023 Health and Safety Policies

Participants acknowledge that COVID-19 is an infectious virus that spreads easily through person to person contact and may cause serious illness to individuals who are unvaccinated and or have certain medical risk factors. Federal and state public health authorities have issued basic health and safety guidelines aimed at mitigating the spread of the virus. Participants understand attending ASP2023 may increase the risk of contracting COVID-19. ASP in no way warrants that the protective measures prescribed for ASP 2023 conference will completely prevent exposure to the COVID-19 virus. Participants agree to follow all public health and safety guidelines to attend ASP2023 and acknowledge the risk of potential COVID-19 exposure and infection during the meeting.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, local conditions and safety guidelines are constantly evolving. We are closely monitoring the current state, federal and local COVID-19 guidelines for in person gatherings and travel restrictions. As of May 2023, the US is no longer under a state of emergency regarding COVID-19 and travel restrictions and mask mandates have been lifted. The CDC reports case rates for the country based upon hospitalization rates per 100,000 residents which can be found at the following website: https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#maps_new-admissions-rate-county

The CDC also provides information on their website regarding recommended actions for those who are sick with, or have been exposed to COVID-19. This information can be found on the CDC website.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/isolation.html>

The meeting venue is in Rockville, MD which is in Montgomery County MD. Montgomery County maintains a website on local COVID-19 rates. It can be found at:

<https://montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/>

ASP urges all 2023 ASP Annual Meeting attendees (including registrants, staff, exhibitors, contractors, Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center staff, and guests) to be fully vaccinated and boosted against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) as per the [CDC Guidelines](#). However, no proof of vaccination will be required.

Many participants will be traveling to the meeting by air and both airports and airplanes are a known source of transmission. Because COVID-19 can be transmitted prior to the onset of—or in the absence of—any symptoms, attendees should remain aware of the risk and we encourage, but based upon County, State and Federal guidelines, do not require, the wearing of masks throughout the Hotel and Conference center, and other venues in which 2023 ASP Annual Meeting events, and activities will occur. Masks are available at the Registration desk should you require one.

ASP asks that 2023 ASP Annual Meeting participants who test positive for COVID-19 after arriving in Rockville, MD, who do not feel well, or who are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms at any point during the meeting refrain from attending the meeting or participating in any in-person meeting-related activities. If you find yourself in this position and are scheduled to present a poster or talk, please alert ASP staff (aspcog@gmail.com) and your session chair or main contact that you are unable to present.

ASP reserves the right to revise this policy if local, state, or national conditions warrant a change. Please check this page regularly for any updates.

Should the CDC rate for Montgomery County change, protocols listed below include the precautions that could be implemented for ASP 2023.

Vaccination strongly recommended

Proof of negative COVID test

Masks required

Health attestation

Temperature scanning