

Guidelines for researchers Scannexus

Guidelines related to the COVID-19 pandemic

MRI-research guidelines: when performing a scan on a participant/patient, a 1,5meter distance cannot be warranted during the accompanying and positioning of the participant/patient in the scanner. As a starting point, performing these activities occurs on a voluntary basis!

Scannexus will consider the following guidelines during MRI-research on human participants/patients:

- Do you have a fever, symptoms of a cold or shortness of breath: **STAY HOME!**
- After a positive COVID-19 test, you are only allowed to enter our facilities after at least 7 days, AND when you are at least 24h without symptoms
- In case housemates are infected, you are required to stay in home quarantine for 14 days
- Do the health check with the research volunteer (see attachment)
- Register your arrival and departure on the list at the reception desk in the scannerlab building – also register the number of participants you will scan. Bookings are registered in Calpendo before commencing
- The staff/researcher wears a face mask and disposable gloves (available at scannerlabs reception) when working with a participant/patient. Gloves are also available in the console rooms of the scanners. Instructions on proper use are dispatched with the gloves.
- Try to keep the contact moments at < 1.5m as short as possible
- Hand washing/disinfecting before and after each contact with participant/patient
- Participant/patient will be requested to take a seat in the safe area at the directions of Scannexus staff
- Safety screening forms will be filled out by the participant/patient in the safety area
- Other than the participant/patient, a maximum of 2 people is allowed in the console room for conducting the study
- Staff/researchers disinfects the MRI-bed, coil, console panel, peripheral equipment, console keyboard and desk, and door knobs, such that they are clean for next users (cleaning equipment is available in the console rooms)
- Please take note that after every booking a 15 minute slot will be scheduled for cleaning of the equipment (specific booking code will be set up in Calpendo for this) and changing rooms by the researcher
- *Volunteers are allowed to wear a facemask, but are required to take it off before entering the magnet. Facemasks can contain metal wires, and although the ones distributed by Scannexus are safe to be taken into the magnet room, they can seriously affect image quality. If a volunteer insists on wearing a mask while being in the scanner, make sure to remove the metal wire from the mask first, and throw it in the bin before entering the room.*

In the Scannexus building, the following measures have been taken:

- Seats in front of reception and seats in safety area have been positioned according to the 1,5meter distance guidelines
- Disinfection facilities are available in the reception area and safety area, at everyone's disposal
- Access to washing room in the safe area is made door-free
- On the floors throughout the scanner area, stickers indicate the 1,5meter distance
- A plexiglass screen is suspended in front of the reception desk
- Entrance to the scanner building is only allowed via the Brightlands/UM building. Exiting the scanner building is only allowed through the hallway to the 24h scanner building door
- When scanning sessions are scheduled outside of office hours and no back up person can be arranged, occupation by Scannexus staff during out-of-office hours or during the weekend can be taken care off.

In order to reduce the risks as much as possible and to make these steps run smoothly, we will take care of:

- Disinfectants and facilities to wash and dry hands
- Adapted ventilation in all the rooms
- Adapted walking routes for entering and exiting the scanner building
- Face masks (disposed at the scanlabs reception desk)
- Disposable gloves (available at scanlabs reception desk and in all console rooms)
- Safety glasses (when necessary, and upon request with superior)