

2021 URMIA Annual Conference in Seattle Safety Protocols*

update October 8, 2021 | *Please note that changes to this document may occur based on updates from the partners listed in #1

What We Are Doing

1. URMIA is actively monitoring various centers of excellence, such as the [CDC](#) and [Johns Hopkins University](#), regarding COVID-19 best practices and guidance. We also are tracking restrictions and guidelines from [King County](#) (WA), the [State of Washington](#), and the [Washington State Department of Health](#). In addition, URMIA member [Becky Bullock](#) of the University of Washington has volunteered to report local conditions on the ground and in the local media.
2. Our conference hotel, the [Sheraton Grand Seattle](#), not only has the extensive resources of its parent corporation, [Marriott](#), but also has its own set of extensive enhanced cleaning and safety procedures. We are working with them to emphasize cleaning protocols specifically for our conference space.
3. For your safety, we are planning appropriate distancing in our dining areas, meeting rooms, transportation, and events. We will hold both the opening and closing events in the hotel to reduce the need to go out into the city.

Registration Planning and Options

4. With conservative planning and space allocation in mind, we have established a maximum number of in-person registrations we can accept. At present, we still have the capacity to continue accepting registrations for the in-person experience in Seattle. We have *unlimited* capacity to accommodate registration for the real-time virtual experience of this hybrid conference. Even if you have registered to come to Seattle, we strongly encourage you to invite colleagues from within your department and across campus to join us via the virtual option for professional development and insights on higher education risk in their areas of responsibility.
5. If you register to attend the conference in Seattle and then find that you aren't feeling well as your travel date approaches, please don't travel! We can switch your registration to the virtual conference experience, allowing you to join us from the comfort of your home as you recuperate!

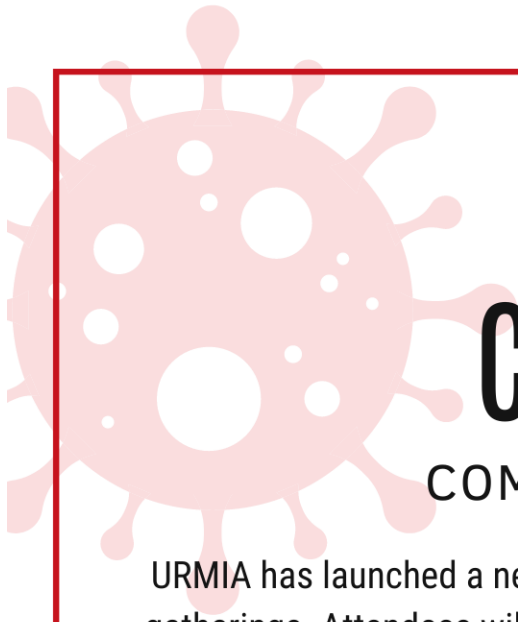
Vaccination Protocols

6. We request everyone who is medically eligible to be fully vaccinated before coming to Seattle. Vaccinated attendees will get a daily email starting Friday, October 15 asking them to attest to their vaccination status and current lack of symptoms. The response options are: I'm not at the in-person conference today, I am fully vaccinated (two weeks after your second dose for a two-dose vaccination or two weeks after your only dose for a one-dose vaccination), or I am not vaccinated or prefer not to share my status but agree to daily testing by URMIA representatives.
7. Many venues, companies, facilities, stores, etc. require proof of vaccination to enter. We advise having an electronic copy of your vaccination card or being enrolled in app like [Clear](#) or Washington State's [MyIRMobile](#).
8. If you are not fully vaccinated, we will require an on-site COVID test to determine any infection when you arrive. Every morning thereafter during the conference we will ask you to take a COVID test. These protocols are for the protection of all attendees, as well as our colleagues and communities when we return from this event.

What to Expect at the Conference

9. In addition to hand sanitizing stations on the conference floor, we will provide a pocket-sized sanitizer and a clear-shield face mask in the conference goodie bag along with all the traditional items you look forward to finding in your bag. To help maintain physical distancing, these bags will be available for you to grab & go instead of being handed to you at a station. Name badges will be updated this year to provide a "signal to engage" indicator so that others have a visual cue about your greeting preferences (example below).
10. In keeping with current guidelines and restrictions, we ask that all attendees always wear a mask indoors. For guidance on the proper use and fit of masks, please refer to these [CDC guidelines](#). Attendees may remove masks indoors when actively eating or drinking at the conference events where food is provided. For those who prefer, any meals included in conference registration will all be available for you to pick up and take back to your room to enjoy.





COVID

COMFORT LEVEL

URMIA has launched a new precautionary measure for in-person gatherings. Attendees will be asked to wear a color-coded dot on their name badge to communicate their COVID Comfort Level. We ask that every one please respect the comfort level of your fellow attendees as we transition to in-person gatherings.

**OKAY WITH
HUGS
& HIGH-FIVES**

**OKAY WITH
TALKING
BUT NOT
TOUCHING**

**HELLO, I AM
KEEPING MY
DISTANCE**



Okay with pre-COVID behaviors such as hugs and high-fives.



Desires some caution and respects social distancing guidelines.



Desires extreme social distancing and the highest precautions.
May be at high risk or caring for someone at high risk.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE :
WWW.URMIA.ORG/AC2021

