

stay safe during your simulation

ATSSL

Advanced Technical Skills
Simulation Laboratory



**UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY**

With COVID-19 in our community it's important to design a simulation curriculum with appropriate protection. **ATSSL COVID ADAPTATION GUIDELINES** give you the security to help keep you safe during your simulation activities and reduce any risk of infection.

ATSSL COVID ADAPTATION GUIDELINES

These guidelines have been developed to support ATSSL in reducing the risk and transmission of COVID-19 among learners, facilitators and employees.

This document outlines the criteria that should be addressed in simulation curriculum development in response to the COVID pandemic.

All users are expected to review and implement these guidelines to their simulation design prior to booking the activity in the ATSSL.

All bookings will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The guidelines set forth are subject to change at anytime as a result of recommendations from the Cumming School of Medicine (CSM), Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) and/or Alberta Health Services (AHS), as well as PPE limitations, or at the discretion of the ATSSL staff.

***DO NOT COME TO THE ATSSL
IF YOU ARE SICK OR HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19***



ATSSL COVID ADAPTATION GUIDELINES

OVERVIEW

1. Communication resources related to CSM COVID-19
2. Physical Distancing
 - a. Restricting for the number of participants
 - b. Maintain 2 metre distancing
 - c. Do not bring personal items, if not required
3. Cleaning and Disinfecting
 - a. Wash hands frequently
 - b. Increased frequency of cleaning
 - c. Ensure all simulation items can be easily cleaned
4. Minimizing Impact on Efficiency and Cost
 - a. Additional sessions may be required
 - b. Limit the number essential items in the space
 - c. Appropriate time to allow for cleaning & disinfecting
5. Specific guidelines for the Surgical Skills Simulation Lab (SSL)
6. Specific guidelines for the Clinical Skills Simulation Lab (CSL)
7. Overview - Simulation Design Pitfalls
 - a. Avoiding 5 Common Pitfalls of Simulation Design in Medical Education



CSM Communication related to COVID-19

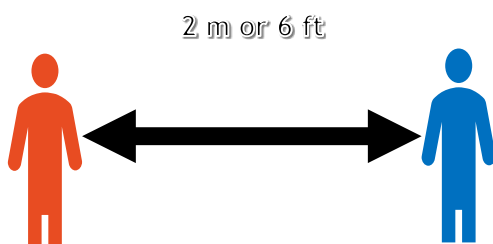
- The Cumming School of Medicine (CSM) encourages all participants to stay up to date with UCalgary developments related to [COVID-19](#).
- Steps are being taken by ATSSL to notify all participants to prevent risk of transmission of infection, and the importance of their roles in following these measures. Steps are modified regularly.
- All participants with cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, or sore throat symptoms asked to complete the [Self Assessment Tool](#) and get tested for COVID-19 prior to entering the laboratories.

Resources:

- [AHS Personal Protective Equipment](#)
- [COVID-19 - Interim IPC Recommendations](#)
- [Reference Guide for Disinfection in Simulation](#)
- Government of Alberta (Alberta Health) – [COVID-19 information for Albertans](#)
- Alberta Health Services – [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#)
- Government of Canada – [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Information Privacy
 - FOIP-PIPA Help Desk: 780-427-5848
 - Toll free: 310-0000 before the phone number (in Alberta)
 - Email: sa.accessandprivacy@gov.ab.ca
- *Health Information Act (HIA) Help Desk:*
 - 780-427-8089
 - Toll free: 310-0000 before the phone number (in Alberta)
 - Email: hiahelpdesk@gov.ab.ca
- Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner: [Privacy in a Pandemic](#)

Maintain Physical Distancing

1. Number of Participants
 - Restrict the number of attendees (learners, staff, facilitators, etc.)
 - Attendees must be able to maintain a distance of at least 2 metres except when providing brief simulation exchanges with appropriate PPE
 - Restructure the activity to include essential participants, only
 - Limit the number of users in common spaces (entryways, exits)
2. Provide all participants instruction about physical distancing prior to each simulation activity and enforce rules during the session
 - Signage indicating specific protocols.
 - ATSSL will provide general signage for the facility
(i.e. reference markers that set out 2 metre distances)
 - Additional instructions should be provided by user group
3. Notify all participants to only bring required items to the lab
 - Do not bring additional personal items
 - Required items will be placed in designated areas



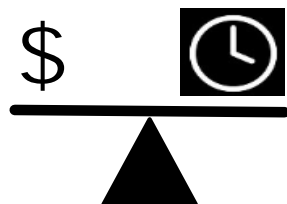
Ensuring Cleaning and Disinfecting

1. Increase the frequency of cleaning for all occupied spaces
 - Handwashing station(s) and/or hand sanitizer at the entrance/exit
 - Minimize the handling of any simulation items before the activity
2. Use IPC approved disinfectants on all touch-points
 - Remind participants “Do Not Touch Anything that does not Need to be touched” (i.e. walls, shelves, tables)
 - Cleaning and disinfecting hard-surfaced items prior to reuse
 - Scheduled UCalgary cleaning staff to clean common areas
3. Communal items must be easily cleaned
 - Paper instructions, charts, etc. should be laminated
 - Choose materials/trainers/equipment appropriately
 - Eliminate using (or re-using) hard to clean or unnecessary items
 - Sanitize hands before using items or wear gloves, if appropriate
 - Do not contaminate between uses
 - i.e. touch other objects, skin, clothing



Minimize Impact on Efficiency and Cost

1. All users must use the [self-screening tool](#) before entering the space
2. Specific building access and restrictions apply
 - Follow CSM rules and regulations, which change regularly
 - Designated entry/exit points
3. Approval of each simulation activity will be reviewed case-by-case, as this is dependent on specific requirements and other bookings
 - There is a limit of the # of participants in the lab at any one time
 - Consider planning staggered start/completion times
 - Plan for a buffer time (15-30 mins) between groups to allow time for cleaning of touch points/equipment
 - Specific agenda may be required prior to confirmation of booking
4. Identify all essential equipment required for the activity
 - # of trainers; specific tools;
 - PPE (ordering may be a limitation)
 - consider time to clean and disinfect between uses





BOOKING GUIDELINES & LABORATORY RULES

ATSSL staff is available to discuss, collaborate and suggest scheduling alternatives. Each session will be assessed individually and additional requirements may be imposed at the discretion of the ATSSL.

1. A list of participant names must be provided prior to the session
2. *All waivers need to be completed and submitted electronically, prior to the session
3. Specific Entry/Exit points will be designated
 - Hand hygiene is required upon entry and exit
4. One lab session per day
 - if the same session is repeated in the same day for multiple learner groups, allot a minimum of 20 minutes between groups
 - all learners and facilitators are required to sign-in upon entry
 - allocate extra time for learners to check in
 - participants should show up on time, DO NOT come early
5. Maximum of 15 participants per session - includes ATSSL staff & facilitators
 - learners will not be able to leave and return to the lab during a session
 - consider shorter sessions
 - do not schedule breaks or lunches
 - *washroom in the lab will be available for use
6. ATSSL is not permitting didactic sessions in the labs or classrooms

*Specific to the Surgical Skills Simulation Laboratory



BOOKING GUIDELINES & LABORATORY RULES

7. DO NOT bring any food or drink to the laboratory
8. Personal items are not permitted in the lab
 - if you must bring personal items with you, store them in designated area (hook or *locker)
 - *an ATSSL staff member will assign to you a locker
9. *Scrubs will **NOT** be provided, unless deemed necessary by ATSSL Staff
 - aprons will be provided to be worn over street clothes
10. *Long pants and flat, closed-toe shoes must be worn to enter the lab, no exceptions will be made
11. Long hair must be tied back and secured in a bun
12. Users will be asked to wear a mask during the session
 - only one mask per user will be provided
 - mask must remain donned at all time during the session (*even when using the washroom)

The following steps will be enforced:

Donning your mask:

- i. Wash your hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 secs
- ii. Don your mask. Wash your hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 secs
- iii. Do not touch your mask after donning

Doffing your mask:

- i. Wash your hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds.
- ii. Doff your mask.
- iii. Wash your hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds.

*Specific to the Surgical Skills Simulation Laboratory

**DO NOT COME TO THE ATSSL
IF YOU ARE SICK OR HAVE ANY SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19**

WASH HANDS FREQUENTLY

**USE HAND SANITIZER
AFTER EACH SIM
OR
HANDLING ANY ITEMS**

*These guidelines are subject to change.
To ensure safe, quality education for all
learners, ATSSL maintains the rights to adapt
these guidelines at any particular time.*

For more information: [ucalgary/atssl](https://ucalgary.atssl)

