

## **AHA Scientific Sessions 2021 Safety Protocols (as of May 26, 2021)**

As a public health organization, the American Heart Association is committed to science-based safety protocols during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr. Eduardo Sanchez, our Chief Medical Officer for Prevention, leads the ongoing evolution of our safety protocols based on the latest scientific developments. Dr. Sanchez previously served as the Texas Commissioner of Health and is currently an adviser to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Our protocols adhere to health and safety recommendations issued by the CDC, as well as state and local health authorities. Our protocols will continue to evolve until the conference in November, and we will keep all of our key stakeholders updated.

Our current protocols for Scientific Sessions in November include the following:

- Currently, the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center is mandating facemasks for all events, so at this stage this will be a requirement for all conference attendees.
- Frequent hand-washing and hand sanitizing is encouraged, and stations will be placed throughout the center for easy access.
- Security staff will be positioned throughout the center to ensure health and safety protocols are being met, including social distancing.
- Enhanced cleaning and safety protocols have been put in place throughout the facility. Special attention will be made to common areas including doorways, elevators, escalators, networking areas, concessions and restrooms. Extensive cleaning will be done at the conclusion of the event each day.
- We have increased aisles throughout the exhibit hall and will implement one-way aisles as needed to ensure the safety of all attendees.
- We will work with the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center to plan maximum capacity levels for each room to allow for social distancing and spacing needs.
- We will avoid any buffets, or pre-plated events. Any food distribution will be done to avoid the congregation of crowds.
- Our exhibition hall will be arranged with appropriate distances between exhibits.