

## **AHA Scientific Sessions 2021 Safety Protocols (as of August 11, 2021)**

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

Our Chief Medical Officer for Prevention Dr. Eduardo Sanchez leads the ongoing evolution of the American Heart Association's safety protocols, which follow the latest scientific evidence and [recommendations](#) from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Dr. Sanchez serves as an adviser to the CDC and previously served as the Texas Commissioner of Health.

Our protocols will continue to evolve to align with guidance from the CDC and state and local health authorities until the conference in November, and we will keep all participants updated on any adjustments.

Protocols for the AHA's Scientific Sessions 2021 currently include:

- In accordance with current CDC guidelines, masks will be required for all participants while indoors.
- Frequent handwashing and hand sanitizing are recommended. Hand sanitizing stations will be placed throughout the Boston Convention and Exhibition Center (BCEC) 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 will be in place throughout BCEC. Common areas, including doorways, elevators, escalators, networking areas, concessions and restrooms will be sanitized frequently throughout the day. Extensive cleaning and disinfecting will be done at the conclusion of the events each day.
- We are working with the BCEC to plan maximum capacity levels for each meeting room that also allow for social distancing and spacing needs.
- Aisles throughout the exhibit hall will be expanded, and one-way aisles will be implemented as needed to ensure safe distancing of all attendees.
- The exhibition hall will be arranged with appropriate distancing between exhibits.