



FROM OUR LAB TO YOURS



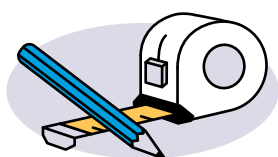
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BACK TO OUR LABS, BACK TO YOURS

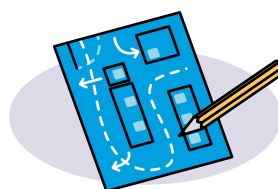
As scientists, we're facing a myriad of changes and challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Some scientists are still waiting to return to their labs, some are just getting started again, and some labs never fully closed down. In the months ahead, all of us will be going through major changes in how we work. At ATCC, even as our scientific teams have been working seven days a week to support COVID-19 research, our work environment has rapidly evolved to ensure the safety of our team and the continuity of our work.

Here are some of the guidelines and approaches that we developed along the way.



Evaluate your space

The initial evaluation can include the number and density of staff in each workspace, workflow, and HVAC system for ventilation.



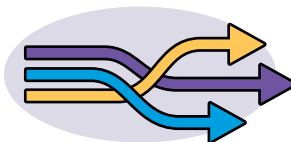
Update your space

Use tape on the floor to create distancing marks, move chairs and furniture in common areas to create distancing, prop open doors to reduce touchpoints, and evaluate laundering schedules for lab coats.



Acknowledge the emotions

The challenges presented by the pandemic may have taken an emotional toll on your team members. Find ways to help foster communication and togetherness such as photo-sharing or special call-outs.



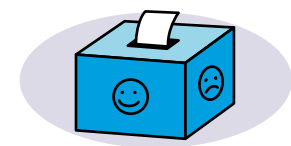
Build in flexibility

Stagger schedules as much as possible, consider splitting physical manipulation of materials and data analysis or documentation, and ensure proper at-home ergonomics.



Change processes and procedures

Decide if/when you want to have temperature checks, provide cleaning supplies and additional cleanings, and update sick leave policies to empower the team to exercise additional caution in case of possible infection.



Create a system for listening to feedback

Encourage team members to discuss feedback and concerns and create multiple avenues for people to share their thoughts. During this transition phase, remember to communicate with extra patience and understanding.

See how we're changing our practices to support your incredible research

atcc.org/reproducibility



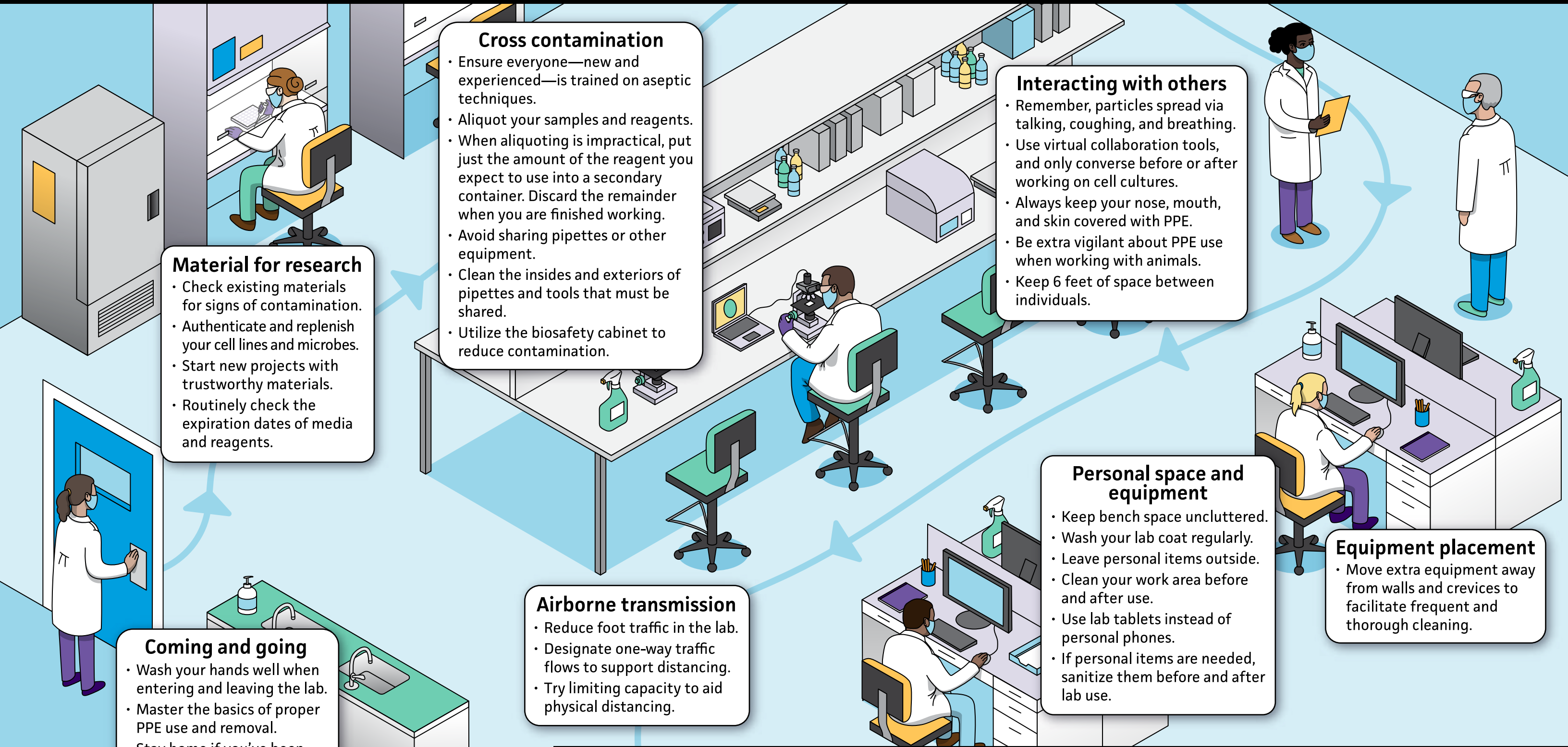
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CREDIBLE SAFEGUARDS INCREDIBLE OUTCOMES

At ATCC, we know how eager you are to get back to the lab. And like you, we're also committed to protecting the health of our colleagues and the quality of our research. Whether returning after a hiatus or gearing up for a new project, we can all use a refresher to help follow best practices. Here are some quick reminders about common contamination hotspots and advice on how to keep them in check while getting your work done.

In addition to the latest guidance from your local health and government authorities, these time-tested tips can help reduce the spread of germs and the risk of cell line contamination.



Material for research

- Check existing materials for signs of contamination.
- Authenticate and replenish your cell lines and microbes.
- Start new projects with trustworthy materials.
- Routinely check the expiration dates of media and reagents.

Cross contamination

- Ensure everyone—new and experienced—is trained on aseptic techniques.
- Aliquot your samples and reagents.
- When aliquoting is impractical, put just the amount of the reagent you expect to use into a secondary container. Discard the remainder when you are finished working.
- Avoid sharing pipettes or other equipment.
- Clean the insides and exteriors of pipettes and tools that must be shared.
- Utilize the biosafety cabinet to reduce contamination.

Interacting with others

- Remember, particles spread via talking, coughing, and breathing.
- Use virtual collaboration tools, and only converse before or after working on cell cultures.
- Always keep your nose, mouth, and skin covered with PPE.
- Be extra vigilant about PPE use when working with animals.
- Keep 6 feet of space between individuals.

Personal space and equipment

- Keep bench space uncluttered.
- Wash your lab coat regularly.
- Leave personal items outside.
- Clean your work area before and after use.
- Use lab tablets instead of personal phones.
- If personal items are needed, sanitize them before and after lab use.

Equipment placement

- Move extra equipment away from walls and crevices to facilitate frequent and thorough cleaning.

Airborne transmission

- Reduce foot traffic in the lab.
- Designate one-way traffic flows to support distancing.
- Try limiting capacity to aid physical distancing.

Coming and going

- Wash your hands well when entering and leaving the lab.
- Master the basics of proper PPE use and removal.
- Stay home if you've been exposed to any illness.
- Inspect PPE prior to use.

Learn more about the laboratory best practices that support your incredible research

atcc.org/reproducibility

WEAR A FACE COVERING



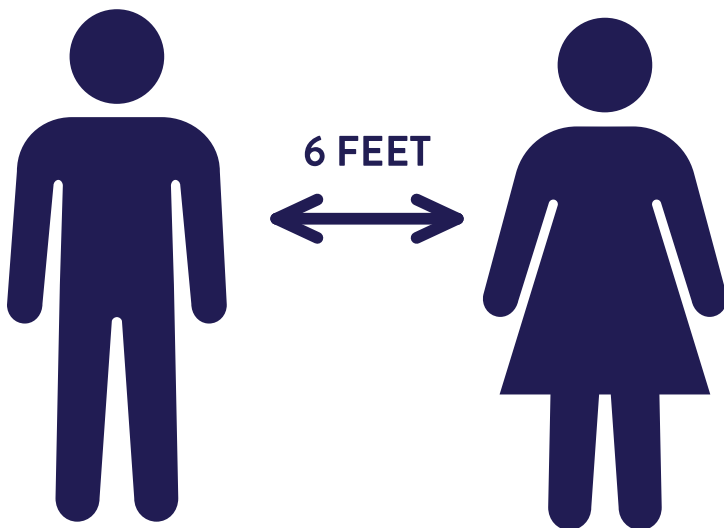
WASH YOUR HANDS



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PRACTICE PHYSICAL DISTANCING



PLEASE USE HAND SANITIZER



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STOP

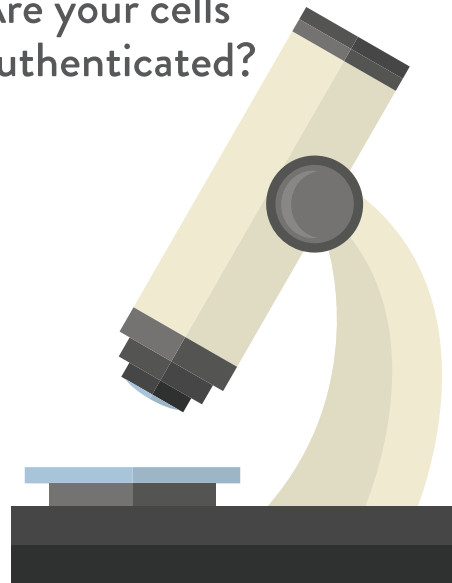
Check the expiration date of your media.



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STOP

Are your cells authenticated?



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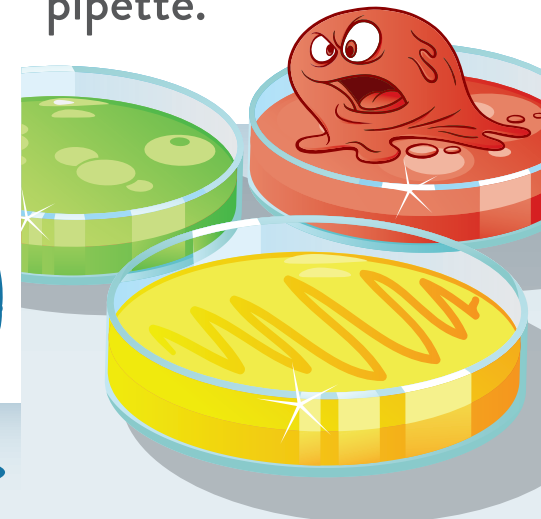
STOP

Have you cleaned your area today?



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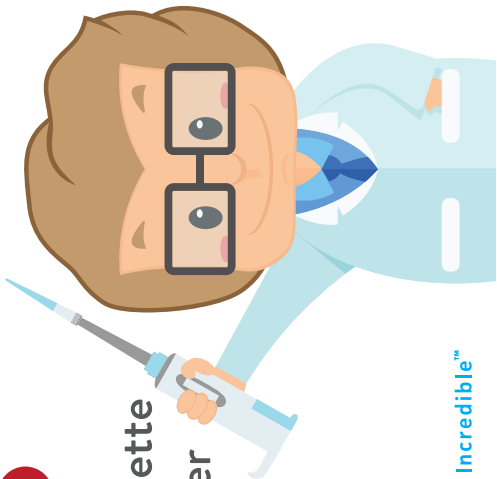
Avoid cross contamination. Wipe down your pipette.



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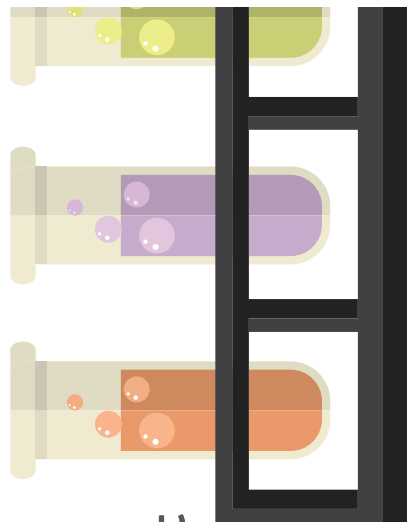
STOP

Clean your pipette before and after cell culturing.

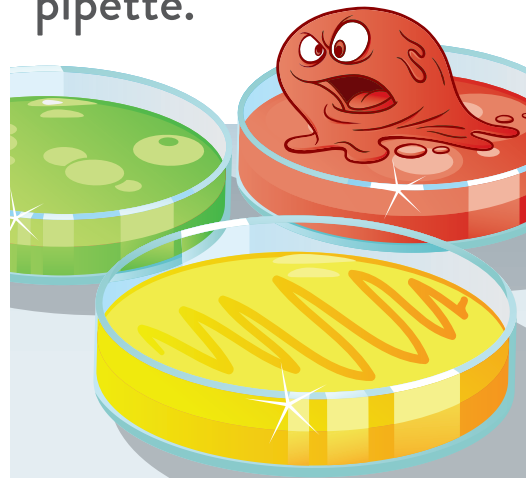


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Start your experiment with fresh material.

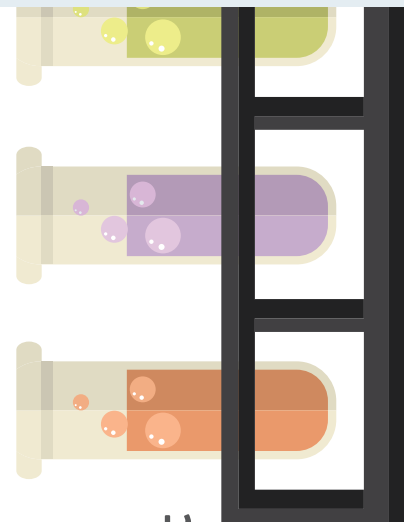


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