Status Update: October 15, 2020

As COVID-19 infection rates begin to increase in various parts of the world, I wanted to provide an update on our status. Charles River remains fully operational across all sites. We are still carefully monitoring the outbreak with our internal and external experts and assessing the impact on employee safety and business operations. Our locations around the world are doing an excellent job of providing a safe working environment for their employees while still meeting clients’ needs for research products and services. Given our processes, business continuity plans, and track record, we are not anticipating any issues with our ongoing operations.

As noted in previous updates, to help prevent the spread of the virus while maintaining continued operation, the following safety measures remain in place:

- Employees work from home when possible
- Strict visitor policies; we have also launched remote audits and virtual facility tours, and we are actively utilizing remote study monitoring to support clients who are unable to travel
- Restrictions on all non-essential business travel
- Modified employee work schedules to create “time and distance” and separation of staff
- Physical distancing practices
- Enhanced daily cleaning of common touch points (doorknobs, break areas, etc.)
- Reminders of good hygiene practices
- Requirement for face coverings for employees and visitors in accordance with applicable government guidance
- Employee self-monitoring for illness symptoms
- Testing, tracking, and contact tracing of COVID-19 cases
- Return to work and self-quarantine guideline documents

Our global and site Business Continuity Plans are active, up to date, and helping our site-based operations, as well as associated logistics and support, to continue to meet our clients’ needs for planned and new projects, including work supporting COVID-19 research efforts.

For the latest business continuity updates, visit our COVID-19 web page. For continued learning, our digital education page has many helpful resources for researchers. If you have any other questions, please reach out to me or your usual Charles River contact.

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