



## 2022 MRA Scientific Retreat (March 9-11, J.W. Marriott, Washington DC)

### COVID Safety Protocols

MRA is excited to host the 2022 Scientific Retreat and to see many of you in-person for the first time since the 2020 event. Several fundraising events and medical conferences safely convened September – December 2021, and MRA has the benefit of learning from the safety protocols of these experiences (e.g. MRA's *Leveraged Finance Fights Melanoma*; SITC; and American Society of Hematology). MRA follows all local and federal COVID-19 safety protocols and intends to do all that we can to enable you to safely join this event.

#### Pre-Event

- **Vaccination:** All participants must be fully vaccinated with the currently acceptable COVID-19 vaccines that are listed on the Center for Disease Control [website](#).
  - The definition of fully vaccinated is:
    - You must receive your final dose two (2) weeks prior to the start of the meeting. A final dose is currently defined as the following:
      - Second shot in a two-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
      - One shot of a single-dose vaccine, such as the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine
  - All proof of vaccination cards must be uploaded to [Crowdpass](#)
- **Testing:** We are requiring proof of a negative test result that should be uploaded into CROWD PASS prior to your arrival at the event. Acceptable tests include either a rapid antigen test performed by a health care provider or service or a nucleic acid amplification test, such as RT-PCR taken no more than 72 hours prior to arrival at the 2022 MRA Scientific Retreat. If testing availability by a health care provider is limited, you can use an at-home rapid test, but we would prefer you test within 24 hours prior to departure/travel. A picture of the rapid test can be uploaded into CROWD PASS as proof of a negative test.
  - All proof of negative tests must be uploaded to [Crowdpass](#)
  - If you test positive, please do not travel to the event. In addition, please notify us immediately by sending an email to [development@curemelanoma.org](mailto:development@curemelanoma.org) so that we can cancel your hotel and travel arrangements.
  - If you are unable to travel for any reason, you have the ability to attend the Retreat 'virtually'. All lectures will be live-streamed and available 'on-demand' for 90 days post-event.

## On-Event Safety Precautions

- **Vaccination requirements for the District of Columbia and JW Marriott:**
  - As of January 15, 2022 per Mayor's Order 2021-148, the District of Columbia has adopted a city wide vaccination entry requirement that requires COVID-19 vaccination in order to enter indoor facilities including restaurants, bars, fitness centers and meetings. The JW Marriott will require all patrons aged 12 or older to show proof that they are fully vaccinated before they are allowed entry into certain hotel facilities including the fitness center, restaurant or attend a meeting at the hotel (ie: Scientific Retreat). For your convenience and since you will be uploading vaccination records into the CROWD PASS site prior to arrival, the MRA will provide the Marriott a list of guests that have verified vaccination records. Upon check-in and with proper photo-identification, the guest will receive a wristband that they should wear in order to access the hotel restaurant, fitness center and the Scientific Retreat. For Retreat participants that are local or staying somewhere else, Marriott staff will provide wristbands to those guests that provide the scan-able code that they will receive from CROWD PASS once their vaccination record is verified.
    - For more information from the District of Columbia please visit <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/vaxdc>.
  
- **Masks**
  - Masks are required at all times unless actively eating or drinking.
  - Please wear a well-fitted mask that is comfortable for you and provides you with good protection.
  - KN95 masks will be available upon request at the Retreat should you need an additional mask during your stay.
  
- **Sanitization**
  - Hand sanitizers will be provided.
  - All shared equipment (e.g., podium laptop) will be cleansed between speakers.
  
- **Testing**
  - For any participant who starts to feel ill at the Retreat, rapid 'home test' kits will be available upon request.
    - If you should test positive please contact the MRA and JW Marriott so that we are made aware of a COVID case at the event. A person who tests positive should not plan on attending the remainder of the Retreat in person but can attend virtually
    - MRA contact information: [jrauscher@curemelanoma.org](mailto:jrauscher@curemelanoma.org), (240) 687-6065
    - JW Marriot contact information – contact the Front Desk.
      - A guest who tests positive during their stay at the JW Marriot has the option of leaving the hotel immediately if they live locally or choose to stay in their room for the required quarantine period. They would not be able to receive in room housekeeping service. Anything needed, including towels and in room dining, would be left outside of their door.

- **Notifications**
  - MRA has plans in place to alert all participants on-event (i) in the case of a possible exposure (to any participant testing positive during the event); or (ii) to a known-exposure (e.g. you joined a Roundtable discussion with a participant who tested positive during the event). Please note that the identity of the participant who tested positive will not be disclosed.
  
- **Posters**
  - The posters have been divided into two sessions (Thursday evening and Friday morning). To reduce crowding, half of the posters will be presented in person Thursday evening and the other half Friday morning. Posters will also be accessible on demand online and at the display stations at meals and breaks.
  
- **Meals**
  - As a safety measure, for all group meals at the Retreat hotel, “to-go” boxes will be available for participants who desire to eat in the comfort of their own hotel room or at a less-crowded location (e.g. outdoors).
  - Thursday dinner is ‘on-your-own’. The 200+ group dinner (formerly at Zaytinya) is cancelled this year out of an abundance of caution.
    - MRA can reimburse your dinner at the federal rate of \$36 per person. MRA is unable to reimburse for alcohol purchases.

## **Post-Event**

Many participants are joining from abroad and will be required to secure PCR testing prior to their return trips home.

- For COVID testing required for travel to return home, please note the following sites. As we will not have on site PCR Covid testing service we encourage you to schedule an appointment in advance. In addition to information on COVID travel guidelines to return to your home country, please also find out airline specific COVID guidelines. The following sites provide testing options as of now and more testing site information will be sent as soon as it is available.
  - The Washington Travel Clinic, providing individual concierge testing services at hotels in the DC area. Strongly recommended to book an appointment well in advance online at: <https://www.washingtontravelclinic.com/covidtesting/>. Phone number: 202-521-8120
  - XpresCheck at Dulles and Reagan National airports. [https://xprescheck.com/?utm\\_source=thermofishercobrand#0](https://xprescheck.com/?utm_source=thermofishercobrand#0)