



WOODS HOLE **OCEANOGRAPHIC** INSTITUTION

Ship Operations

WHOI Ship Operations Respiratory Illness Policy for Science Party, Technical Staff and Marine Crew Members

Guidelines are developed from CDC updates, GWMMA and UNOLS Guidance. These may be updated or modified as needed.

Prior to traveling to the vessel, WHOI Ship Operations recommends that all individuals sailing have updated vaccinations for influenza and COVID-19

Pre-Embarkation and Embarkation

- WHOI Ship Operations adopts the CDC policy to help prevent respiratory illnesses by staying up to date with immunizations, practicing good hygiene and taking steps to clean the air in your common surroundings (home & office)
- Recommend participants to be fully vaccinated no less than 2 weeks prior to embarking vessel.
- Self-monitor for COVID-19 and flu like symptoms and report severe symptoms to your immediate supervisor (Chief Scientist / PI (Principal Investigator) / Master / Marine Personnel Manager/ Director of Ship Operations)
- If conditions warrant, a COVID test and/or 5-day isolation may be required on board the vessel
- Missions shall consider keeping one science bunk empty to accommodate a COVID or influenza case. For high-risk cruises that are very remote and or are in areas that lack reasonable shoreside medical support and as well as ALVIN missions

Underway

- If a person tests positive for COVID or Flu, they will still undergo 5 days isolation on board. that person may return to work if they have no symptoms or symptoms are resolving after 5 days.
- If a person tests positive and has moderate to severe symptoms the ship's medical officer will consult with GWMMA on the best treatment and evaluate evacuation or port call options if required.
- Shipboard crew will perform extensive cleaning and disinfecting of all areas of the ship if a case develops on board, Clorox 360 electrostatic sprayers are to be used.