By Elizabeth Grisham

Mason scientists investigate COVID-19 treatments with a focus on human trials.

Research and clinical teams at George Mason University are among the first institutions in the nation to participate in human trials of new COVID-19 treatments, including vaccines and therapeutics.

For the past year, Mason researchers and clinicians have collaborated on projects focused on understanding the spread of COVID-19, developing interventions to mitigate the virus, and improving treatment for those who have been diagnosed with the disease. These efforts have included modeling disease transmission, simulating infection scenarios, designing and testing vaccines, developing diagnostic tools, and evaluating therapeutics.

In addition to conducting research and providing clinical care, Mason scientists have been involved in numerous initiatives aimed at improving COVID-19 prevention strategies. For example, Mason researchers have contributed to studies examining the effectiveness of personal protective equipment, such as masks, and have investigated the potential role of diet and nutrition in mitigating the impact of COVID-19.

By working together across academic units and disciplinary boundaries, Mason's researchers have been able to make significant contributions to the fight against COVID-19. Their efforts have helped keep our university learning environment one of the safest in the nation (thank you to all who did their part to make that happen). We know that COVID-19 can be deadly (my sincere condolences to you who have had to face tragic losses of friends and family over the past year); we know an online format of virtual learning can occur for a majority of our classes (and many of you also had to also juggle guiding your children through virtual learning while teleworking, not an easy feat); we know that mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity is important. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), health is defined as being "a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." To understand the significance of wellness, it's important to understand how it's linked to health. Better physical and mental health outcomes, so that instead of just surviving, you're thriving. To do this, we will need mental strength and enthusiasm to tackle what lies before us.

The outstanding achievement awards recognize the dedication, and contributions to the university. Mason's faculty and staff across many award categories and celebrate their hard work, dedication, and contributions to the university.

Full report

Outstanding Achievement Awards 2021: Call for Nominations

Outstanding Achievement Awards recognize the dedication, and contributions to the university. Mason's faculty and staff across many award categories and celebrate their hard work, dedication, and contributions to the university.

38 nominations received

Nominate a colleague for a 2021 Outstanding Achievement Award

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