



March 15, 2022

Dear Prospective Campers,

The health and well-being of our community is paramount. Family camp welcomes campers and family members with many metabolic disorders, some of whom face serious risks to their health if they become sick. To protect the most vulnerable members of the community, PKU News has implemented a strict COVID policy for in-person campers for the 2022 session, outlined on the following page. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

This policy is evidence-based, recommended by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and has been approved by the National PKU News Camp Advisory Board, Dr. Daelyn Richards, and myself.

Signed,

Cary O. Harding, MD  
Professor of Molecular and Medical Genetics  
Oregon Health and Science University

**FAMILY CAMP • A PROJECT OF NATIONAL PKU NEWS**

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## **2022 PKU Family Camp COVID Policy for In-Person Campers**

[The CDC defines vaccination statuses](#) as **fully vaccinated** (a person has received their primary series of COVID-19 vaccines) and **up to date** (a person has received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster dose(s) when eligible). All eligible campers will be required to be **fully vaccinated** and **up to date** with COVID-19 vaccinations per these definitions.

- Vaccinations must be completed by May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022, which is 2 weeks prior to the first day of camp. This is due to the 2-week time requirement for the vaccination to take full effect in building immunity against COVID-19.
- Past COVID infection does not replace the COVID vaccine requirement to attend camp.
- You will be required to provide proof of vaccination status for all eligible members of your party in the vaccination portal.
- Family Camp will require the use of masks indoors during camp. While we recognize the state of Oregon is planning to lift indoor-masking requirements in March, the pandemic climate is too variable with the development of novel variants for us to be comfortable lifting this requirement for our metabolic community.
- Vaccinations are effective at lowering your chance of acquiring COVID infection. However it is not fully effective, especially with novel variants that have developed mutations in the spike protein that was used to develop these vaccines. To ensure the lowest risk possible, we strongly encourage all campers to get a PCR COVID test within one week prior to the start of camp (anytime after May 26<sup>th</sup>). This is not a requirement to attend camp, but it is highly encouraged.
- If you or a member of your group develop symptoms of COVID infection at camp, we will have antigen tests available to determine whether the causal agent is COVID. If you or a member of your group tests positive for COVID during camp, you will have two options available to you and your group: 1) we will provide quarantine quarters on the other side of camp and have food delivered to you and your party until the end of camp, or 2) you may choose to leave early with a partial refund.

**For those who can't come: we want you to be involved in future years, and we hope that the virtual option is a good fit for you this year. See you at camp!**

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