

June 8, 2022

HEI ANNUAL CONFERENCE COVID PROTOCOL

HEI is committed to conducting the HEI Annual Conference to minimize the opportunity for transmissions of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID) and protect the safety of all Conference participants.

Conference Participants are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID. In addition, we will have the following protocol in place:

Conference Sessions

- Based on the current status of the pandemic, we require masks in the main conference session room, the poster session room and all other meeting rooms used for smaller side meetings. We also strongly recommend wearing a mask in other indoor public areas of the hotel.
- We strongly recommend N95, KN95, or KF94 quality masks (no cloth masks please). We kindly request that attendees bring their own masks.
- For podium presentations, speakers and panelists may unmask when giving their presentations or answering questions. Poster presenters should remain masked, given the density and activity during the poster sessions.

Dining

- We will provide ample dining tables to allow for safe distancing while conference participants enjoy their meals.
- Breakfasts and lunches will be provided buffet style, with an option of collecting one's meal "to go"
- Participants may unmask briefly to eat or drink in the dining rooms of the conference. We recommend that participants remain masked during coffee breaks, except to enjoy their refreshments.

This protocol is based on the current public health status in Washington, DC as of June 8, 2022. HEI will continue to monitor COVID status and reserves the right to adjust the protocol as needed, to reflect changes in community transmission or directives from national, state, or local public health authorities.