

“Higher Risk” Individuals and Visitation at LUMCFS

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports certain people are at “higher risk” of getting very sick from COVID-19.

“Higher Risk” individuals include **older adults (60 years of age or older) and persons who have serious chronic medical conditions** like heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease.

The risk of becoming severely ill from COVID-19 increases significantly for people beginning at age 60 and for individuals with underlying health conditions. This finding is based on a study of 44,672 COVID-19 cases.

Given this information from the CDC, individuals who are at “higher risk” should closely follow the advice of the CDC to protect their health from COVID-19.

For information from the CDC about individuals who are older OR who have serious chronic medical conditions, please visit this page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html>

The CDC states, “If you are at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19 because of your age or because you have a serious long-term health problem, it is extra important for you to take actions to reduce your risk of getting sick with the disease.”

If you are at higher risk of getting very sick from COVID-19, the CDC states you should:

1. Stock up on supplies.
2. Take everyday precautions to keep space between yourself and others.
3. When you go out in public, keep away from others who are sick, limit close contact and wash your hands often.
4. Avoid crowds as much as possible.
5. Avoid cruise travel and non-essential air travel.
6. During a COVID-19 outbreak in your community, stay home as much as possible to further reduce your risk of being exposed.

At the direction of Louisiana Department of Health, LUMCFS is restricting non-essential visits to our children’s home campuses. Also, LUMCFS encourages all “higher risk” individuals to avoid visiting our campuses until further notice. Risk of exposure may be significantly increased for individuals who do not follow the guidelines of the Louisiana Department of Health and the U. S. Centers for Disease Control.