



## Safety Statement and Annual Meeting Protocols

### *SFG's Commitment to Safety*

We look forward to welcoming attendees to San Diego for the SFG in-person Annual Meeting November 7-10, 2021. The health and safety of attendees, presenters, exhibitors, staff, and the local community is a priority for the society. SFG will encourage socially distanced seating during the meeting sessions and at group events. To ensure the safest possible in-person gathering, vaccinations and mask wearing will be required for the in-person events in San Diego as detailed below.

- **Proof of full vaccination is required.** Prior to arriving on site, attendees will be asked to provide proof that they are fully vaccinated. Be prepared to upload documented proof, such as a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or World Health Organization (WHO) card/letter, that full vaccination was completed at least 14 days prior to arriving on-site in San Diego. There will be no exceptions to the vaccination requirement to attend the in-person portion of the meeting. Unvaccinated individuals are highly encouraged to access the virtual version of the meeting, which includes posters and recordings of sessions with keynote talks and award lectures.
- **Face masks are required** to be worn indoors except in the following limited circumstances: 1. When actively eating or drinking, 2. When presenting a talk. Masks will be required at all times in the poster and exhibit areas. No food or beverages will be permitted in the poster areas. Any person who does not adhere to the mask policy will be asked to leave and may be denied readmission to the meeting.

*Additionally:*

- **Seating arrangements that maximize social distancing** will be used as feasibly possible based on the number of attendees.
- **COVID-19 testing is recommended**, to be done within 72hrs of attending the meeting as well as following the meeting. Some individuals may be required to take a COVID-19 test prior to their departure back to their institutions, and for those traveling from outside the US, a COVID-19 test may be required to board your flight.

SFG is committed to hosting a safe in-person meeting. Attendees should be aware that, while SFG will make every effort to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission on site, it is possible that attendees will come in contact with people in airports, public transportation, hotels, and around the Westin hotel who could potentially carry the virus, which is why SFG is requiring attendees to be fully vaccinated for their own safety, as well as the safety of others.

As SFG continues to track the rate of COVID-19 transmission, these policies and safety measures may be further modified based on the latest public health guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) as well as [local government requirements and guidance](#). If safety measures are changed, they will be posted on the website and disseminated to all attendees. In order to attend this in-person event, you must comply with these mandatory policies for the safety and well-being of all attendees. Your registration fee would not be refunded due to non-compliance of safety policies.



### **The Westin San Diego Gaslamp Quarter / Marriott Policies**

[Westin /Marriott](#) has implemented health and safety protocols based on guidance from public health officials.

### **City of San Diego**

The [City of San Diego](#) is committed to ensuring the safety of residents and visitors.

### **World Health Organization**

The [World Health Organization](#) is dedicated to the well-being of all people and guided by science.

### **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) is the United States health protection agency.

### **[Vaccines.gov](#)**

Provides resources for finding a COVID-19 vaccine near you.

### **International Attendees**

International attendees should always check current travel restrictions to the U.S. on the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\) website](#) before planning your travel, to make sure you will be able to enter the U.S.