



The Framingham Heart Study

A Project of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and Boston University

Dear FHS participant,

You are very much in our thoughts as we face a major national pandemic. We hope you and your family are well - your health and wellbeing is of paramount importance to us.

The President's recommendation extending social distancing until end-April means that we will now be suspending **ALL in-person examinations of FHS study participants (including all research center and off-site visits) through Friday, May 1, 2020.**

We are taking this **precautionary measure** to limit any potential exposure to COVID-19, given the voluntary nature of the exam. FHS staff is now teleworking so that they too are protected against any potential exposure to the virus, consistent with our state and national guidelines.

During this time, FHS staff will continue our practice of telephonic health history updates. So some FHS participants may be contacted over the phone for this purpose. We understand these are very challenging times for everyone, including you. If for any reason, our telephone call comes at an inconvenient time, simply let us know and we will reschedule at a more convenient time.

FHS leadership is continuing to evaluate the pandemic situation daily and we will continue to provide updates on an ongoing and regular basis. We will post updates on the FHS website, Facebook and Twitter (links below):

- Website: <https://www.framinghamheartstudy.org/>
- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/framinghamheartstudy/>
- Twitter: <https://twitter.com/framinghamstudy>
- Core Exam: Maureen Valentino 508-935-3417 maureenv@bu.edu
- Cognitive Testing and MRI Studies: Julia Cullen 508-663-4078 cullenj@bu.edu
- PET Scan, Stroke and Neurology: Katherine O'Malley 508-663-4059 keomall@bu.edu

Vicki Peterson 508-935-3468 vpeters@bu.edu

We truly thank you for your continued participation in the study. Your support and contributions to science are very precious, and we hope to welcome you back for in-person examinations when the FHS premises opens for business, hopefully soon! Until then, we hope you stay well, healthy and socially distanced.

Sincerely,

Vasan S. Ramachandran, MD
Principal Investigator, The Framingham Heart Study