COVID-19 Guidance for BSI Events (updated 24 February 2022)

All BSI events will continue to prioritise the health and safety of our members, delegates and staff. We will follow current government guidelines, relevant to the location, for all BSI events in addition to any venue-specific policies.

Vaccination remains the most effective protection against becoming ill with COVID-19. The British Society for Immunology encourages all who are eligible to get the vaccine and booster(s) for your safety and that of others and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Stay home if you are unwell
If you are feeling unwell, you are asked not to travel to the event venue.

If you are unable to attend due to illness, please let us know as soon as possible that you are unable to attend by contacting the BSI events team at meetings@immunology.org.

If you think you may have COVID-19, follow NHS guidance on what to do if you have symptoms in the UK and follow local rules regarding self-isolation.

Lateral Flow Tests
We recommend event attendees take a rapid lateral flow test prior to arriving on site. If you return a positive test or are showing any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 please DO NOT travel to the venue.

Physical distancing
Based on current government guidelines and regulations across the UK, social distancing is no longer required in indoor public spaces. We do continue to recommend avoiding shaking hands and be respectful of those around you with regards to maintaining a reasonable distance.

Face coverings
Mask-wearing remains an effective public health measure to suppress transmission of COVID-19 and people are encouraged to wear masks in crowded indoor spaces. Please see below for current government guidelines on mask wearing.

In England, face masks are no longer mandated anywhere, but are recommended in places where people who don’t usually meet will gather.
In Scotland, face coverings remain a legal requirement in shared indoor spaces until 21 March 2022.
In Wales, from 28 February 2022 face masks will no longer be a legal requirement in most indoor public spaces. They will not be a requirement for events of any size.
In Northern Ireland, Face masks remain a legal requirement on public transport, in hospitality venues and most other indoor venues.

Venue facilities
Venues will maintain the highest standards of cleaning before during and after the event. Catering facilities will be open in line with the latest government guidance. Hand sanitiser stations will be in place at the registration desks, catering stations and various points around the venue. Please do however to continue to follow guidance and wash your hands frequently.