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Re: COVID-19 and Barth syndrome affected individuals

To Whom it May Concern:

We write with updated advice regarding COVID-19 for individuals with Barth Syndrome and their families. The following link provides updated resources: <https://www.barthsyndrome.org/barthsyndrome/familyresources/toolbox/health-advisories.html>

Because immune system compromise and heart problems are common, **individuals with Barth Syndrome are at high risk of severe COVID-19 illness.** Therefore, we recommend that all individuals with Barth Syndrome and their close family contacts and caregivers remain strictly adherent to social distancing. This may include the cessation of in-person school and work, in addition to avoidance of all social gatherings.

We do not have guidance on length of time these recommendations will be required. These links provide detailed guidance on to limit the risk of catching and transmitting COVID-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html> and <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/index.html>

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