

COVID-19 crisis: Health Research Alliance Members' Survey Analysis

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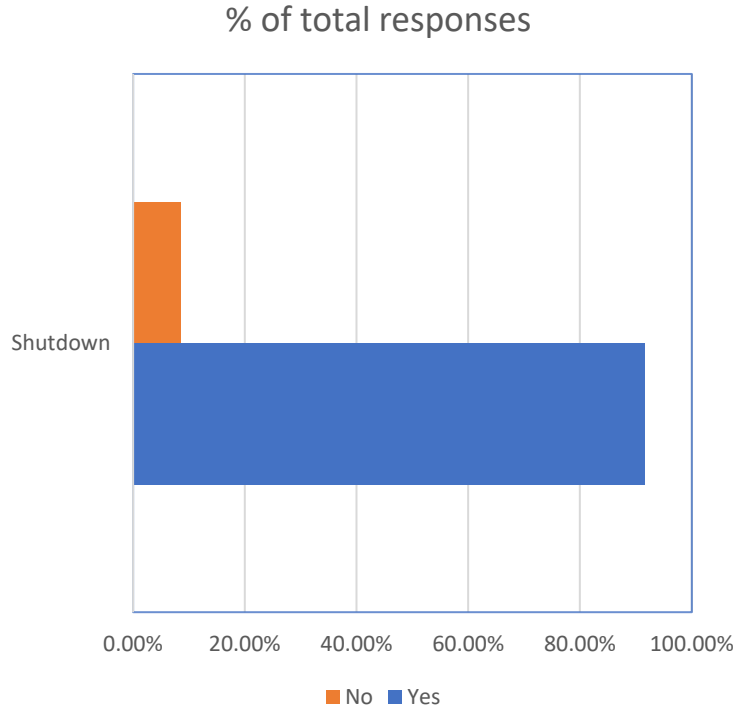
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Survey Questions

Themes

- *Institutional Activities*
- *Impact on Research and Researchers*
- *Areas for Action*

Institutional activities



- **Institution Shutdown**
Mid-March-June
➤ Only essential personnel allowed

- ***Institution Re-opening***
Over June-August



Immediate Institutional Impacts

- New hire freeze*
- Promotions on hold*
- Furloughs*
- Reduction in salary*
- Reduction in benefits*

Trends in Impact on Research

- ***Delays :***

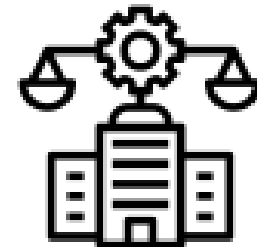
- *60-70% of researchers indicated delays in the projected timeline*
- *Projects delayed by about 2-6 months*

- ***Cause of delays:***

- *lab shutdowns; shut down of core-facilities; restricted shared resources; loss of mouse colonies; loss of unique cell lines; loss of supplies and reagents; pause/slowed recruitment to clinical trials*
- *More clinical responsibilities for physician-scientists*
- *Pivot to COVID projects*
- *Reduced productivity because of overwhelming family responsibilities because lack of childcare/care for elderly in the household*
- *Reduced productivity because of stress and anxiety*

Trends in Impact on Researchers

- *Reduced Productivity*
- *Negative Impact on Career Progression*
- *Challenges in Sustainability of Research labs*



Requests from researchers

- *Extension in reporting timeline*
- *No-cost extensions to complete the proposed research*
- *Supplement funds to complete the proposed research*
- *Accommodate delays in start date for new grants*

Areas for Action

❖ Immediate:

- Flexibility in reporting timeline
- Flexibility in granting no-cost extension
- Flexibility in accommodating delays in grant start date

❖ For immediate consideration:

- Efforts to secure additional funds to offer supplement funds to the researchers most affected
- Efficient way of awarding the supplemental grants

❖ Potential areas for consideration:

- Identify other ways to mitigate deleterious affects of the pandemic
- Re-visit and strategize future grants eligibility and evaluation criteria that would accommodate the setbacks caused because of the pandemic

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

