



## Evolution Research Group Letter from the CEO

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Dear ERG Trusted Partner,

At ERG, we know that success in our clinical trials ecosystem, especially during an unprecedented time like that of the COVID-19 pandemic, means clear communications are not optional – they are indeed critical for effective planning for operational success. We are pleased to update you that all our portfolio and affiliate sites are open. Our ERG team stands ready to restart enrollment and to initiate new studies that have been postponed. Each site will continue to minimize risk and operate under their individual **COVID-19 Risk Mitigation and Recovery Plans** with each member of our team dedicated to ensuring the safety of study subjects, staff members, and everyone involved in the execution of our clinical trials. These plans are available by clicking [here](#).

We would be remiss if we did not share that we empathize with all our colleagues, partners, and sponsors that are enduring the civil unrest across the U.S. In the interest of abundant precaution, we have increased security at our research locations, as necessary.

The increase in fear, anxiety, and depression during this most recent tragic chain of events has, on top of the emotional toll the COVID-19 situation has been taking on our country, makes it even more critical that we reopen our trials to patients suffering from mental illness and other debilitating disorders. Patients and family members are eager to re-engage in study participation with the hopes of advancing important medicines to market.

We are saddened to learn from recent (late May) industry reports that only 23% of sites are now open to enrollment of new participants. With several ongoing studies due to reopen for screening and many new trials preparing to initiate, we recognize our clients may have significant gaps in their execution plans and recruitment requirements. ERG is ready to support you, and your COVID-19 and non-COVID trials. If you have any immediate needs, I invite you to email TJ Calabrese at [tcalabrese@ergclinical.com](mailto:tcalabrese@ergclinical.com) and we will schedule something within 24-48 hours.

While we continue to pivot to our new realities, we also seek to improve our appreciation and understanding of the core issues concerning each of our sponsors and partners. We look forward to receiving your insights and invite your feedback in our ERG survey. If you have not already received an invitation to complete our key client survey, please email your Account Director, TJ Calabrese, or me directly to participate.

Our ERG team remains committed to keeping everyone safe and healthy while conducting research studies. We continue to limit visitors to the site and will be prioritizing on-site monitoring visits and all visitors are required to provide the necessary information requested in advance and follow ERG's guidelines while on-site. We will continue following all necessary federal, state, and local guidance and guidelines and update our policies and procedures via these communications updates and on our website.



Lastly, on behalf of our team at ERG, we continue to extend our gratitude to those of you, and your families, who are working bravely on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic who have put their lives in harm's way to combat this virus. Our thoughts remain with those who have suffered the loss of a loved one or that has endured the fear of a negative outcome by receiving a positive test result.

Please stay safe and healthy, and feel free to contact me at [lthievonwright@ergclinical.com](mailto:lthievonwright@ergclinical.com) anytime.

Regards,  
Lori Wright