

Large Events in 2021 Will Look Different (*Interview Transcripts*)

Kashif Zaheer, Medical Group Director, OSF HealthCare

“This is the time of year – from now until the fall – when a lot of outdoor events can happen, including weddings, graduation parties, sporting events, parades. And large events usually have the risk for transmission of disease – very rapidly, too.” (:20)

Kashif Zaheer, Medical Group Director, OSF HealthCare

“There are emergent of new variants and we can see that the variants are significantly impacting even those who have received the COVID vaccine – so we do not yet understand how the variants effect us.” (:14)

Kashif Zaheer, Medical Group Director, OSF HealthCare

“Specific recommendations would be to consider how big of a gathering it will be. What would be the risk associated with those gatherings? How do we maintain a healthy environment? How to we communicate any precautions with the people who are going to be attendees?” (:17)

Kashif Zaheer, Medical Group Director, OSF HealthCare

“Keep in mind that the key is the event planners for gatherings should connect with state and local officials to plan really deliberately how that event will go along. Sometimes there could be exposure to the virus at the event – how do we follow up with those exposures after the event? During the event, how are they going to communicate with people attending in regards to reminding them of social distancing? Such as putting up large banners and frequent announcements throughout the event to maintain distancing, masking, and all those.” (:35)