



## COVID-19 (CORONAVIRUS) PREPAREDNESS UPDATE MARCH 4, 2020

Dear MAPS 2020 Attendee/Prospective Attendee,

The Medical Affairs Professional Society (MAPS) 2020 Annual Meeting will take place as planned March 8 - 11, 2020 in Miami, Florida, and MAPS is taking all necessary precautions to ensure the health and safety of attendees in light of concerns about COVID-19, commonly known as the coronavirus.

We realize some companies have instituted restrictive travel bans for employees, and we encourage attendees to adhere to company policies, and most importantly, for each attendee to evaluate her/his own health and fitness for travel. **Should your plans change and you are no longer able to attend MAPS 2020, please email [info@medicalaffairs.org](mailto:info@medicalaffairs.org) by Friday, March 6 for virtual participation information for both the main conference and the Field Medical Program.**

### **Current risk assessment:**

According to the [latest update from the Centers for Disease Control](#) (CDC)'s Website on March 4, 2020, "most people in the United States will have little immediate risk of exposure to this virus. This virus is NOT currently spreading widely in the United States." The CDC continues that "for most of the American public, who are unlikely to be exposed to this virus at this time, the immediate health risk from COVID-19 is considered low." Please refer to the above link for the latest updates from the CDC.

MAPS will continue to closely monitor developments and stay abreast of updates from health organizations responsible for tracking and responding to the virus, including the CDC, World Health Organization (WHO), and European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC). **We want to assure anyone planning to attend the MAPS 2020 Annual Meeting that their health, safety, and security is our top priority.**

### **How we are preparing:**

While the CDC notes that immediate risk from COVID-19 is low, MAPS is prepared to rapidly respond to any issues that arise during the meeting and provide assistance to all attendees. We are taking the following to actions to prepare:

- Adhering to all guidance and recommended safety measures issued by the WHO, CDC, and local health organizations, including:



- CDC's healthcare protocols for management of COVID-19 by state and local health departments.
- WHO's recently released Key Planning Recommendations for Mass Gatherings in the Context of the current COVID-19 Outbreak.
- Working with the Miami Beach Convention Center, the Miami International Airport, MAPS 2020 host hotels in Miami Beach and area hotels to coordinate appropriate safety procedures.
- Following CDC recommendations and protocols for heightened cleanliness at event facilities, including increasing the number of hand sanitizing stations located throughout the facilities.
- Actively encouraging attendees to take common-sense precautions and follow CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of illness.
- Ensuring that medical care is readily available to address immediate healthcare concerns of attendees.

MAPS is taking COVID-19 very seriously and is fully engaged and prepared to host a successful Annual Meeting in Miami Beach. The city of Miami Beach and the Miami Beach Convention Center hosts successful conventions and other large-scale events daily and are maintaining cleanliness and safety standards throughout public spaces, hotels, and meeting facilities.

We encourage attendees to monitor the CDC website for additional information and follow the WHO's Travel Advice as they consider their travel arrangements to the MAPS 2020 Annual Meeting, as well as its recommendations for protecting themselves from an infection. In addition, we are closely monitoring all travel alerts issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

We will continue to update you via [www.medicalaffairs.org/maps2020global](http://www.medicalaffairs.org/maps2020global), the MAPS 2020 App and email. **Again, should your plans change and you are no longer able to attend MAPS 2020, please email [info@medicalaffairs.org](mailto:info@medicalaffairs.org) by Friday, March 6 for virtual participation information for both the main conference and the Field Medical Program.**

**Additional resources:**

[World Health Organization](https://www.who.int) Twitter: @WHO

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov) Twitter: @CDCgov

[European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control](https://www.ecdc.europa.eu) Twitter: @ECDC\_EU

[AMA Resource Center for Physicians](https://www.ama-assn.org)



Sincerely,

Travis Hege

CEO

Medical Affairs Professional Society