

Sound Saves Lives

Greetings!

The American Society of Echocardiography's Executive Committee convened on Tuesday, March 17, 2020, to address the unprecedented challenges facing our community in response to COVID-19. We discussed that this is a difficult time in many ways, with members dealing with managing high patient volumes in hospitals, and adjusting patient protocols in their offices and labs while trying to protect themselves, their families, and colleagues. All of us at ASE want to extend our heartfelt thoughts to you, your colleagues, and your loved ones, as we grapple with this pandemic and the changes to our usual lives.

Our leadership has looked at the outlook for the next couple of months and made several decisions. We are cancelling our live Review Course in Boston in May and transitioning it to an <u>online course</u>. We are also cancelling our Industry Roundtable event in New York City in April and moving the event to early October. Due to the rapidly shifting environment, including changes in government policies about public gatherings, the organization is deferring our assessment and decision regarding the status of our June annual Scientific Sessions until after April 7, 2020 to allow for further developments. In the meantime, we are working on alternative plans to enhance the event, including virtual options to support this important activity. We are also rapidly developing COVID-19 resources on <u>Connect@ASE</u>, on our <u>website</u>, on <u>YouTube</u>, and on <u>Twitter</u> to support the host of challenges our members are facing all over the world.

It's at times like these when our strong connections with each other show themselves as our best resources. It's our shared humanity and caring that we must count on when times are tough.

With warm regards,



Madhav Swaminathan, MD, FASE ASE President

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