

March 18, 2020

The Honorable Robert Kadlec, M.D., MTM&H, M.S.  
Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Dr. Kadlec:

The undersigned organizations are writing as representatives of front-line physicians to request that you create a mechanism to provide our organizations regular, timely and relevant COVID-19 information that we may immediately promulgate to our members. We recommend a semi-weekly (twice a week) conference call featuring an appropriate senior public health representative of the Administration and a representative of each of our medical organizations.

We seek to work closely with the Administration to ensure that a strong, effective, and well-coordinated response is implemented to treat and protect the American people. As we all recognize, the World Health Organization's declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic and the Administration's declaration of National Emergency represent important milestones in the progression of this disease as a public health challenge. This is a rapidly evolving situation and we believe that front-line physicians, like our members, and our patients will be best served by robust lines of communication between the Administration, its public health officials and our organizations.

Please contact Manuel Bonilla of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) at [M.Bonilla@asahq.org](mailto:M.Bonilla@asahq.org) or 202-436-2644 or Katie Orrico of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (AANS) and Congress of Neurological Surgeons (CNS) at [Korrnico@neurosurgery.org](mailto:Korrnico@neurosurgery.org) or 703-362-4637 with any questions.

Thank you for your consideration.

**American Society of Anesthesiologists**

**American Association of Neurological Surgeons**

**Congress of Neurological Surgeons**

**American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry**

**American Academy of Dermatology Association**

**American Academy of Neurology**

**American Academy of Ophthalmology**

**American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons**

**American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons**

**American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists**

**American College of Radiology**

**American College of Rheumatology**

**American Gastroenterological Association**

**American Medical Association**

**American Osteopathic Association**

**American Psychiatric Association**

**American Society for Radiation Oncology**

**American Society of Plastic Surgeons**

**Endocrine Society**

**National Association of Spine Specialists**

**Society of Thoracic Surgeons**