



## Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting

April 29-May 6, 2020 | Philadelphia, PA

April 29-May 1 • Pre-Conference Events | May 2-5 • PAS Meeting | May 6 • Post-Conference Events

# PAS Statement on Coronavirus

## March 10, 2020 Update

Like many communities and institutions throughout the nation, we at PAS are aware of the changing landscape and many uncertainties associated with the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). We are writing to provide information and guidance related to the PAS 2020 Meeting, April 29 – May 6 in Philadelphia.

**The PAS 2020 Meeting dates and venue remain unchanged. Currently, we expect the conference to take place as planned.** We are monitoring this fluid situation daily. On our PAS website, you will find our [most current statement](#) which is reviewed daily and updated as needed. Please feel free to check the website regularly and know we will keep the PAS Community apprised, should PAS Meeting plans change.

For the past several weeks we have been closely monitoring and aligning with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control ([CDC](#)) and the World Health Organization ([WHO](#)), including the WHO guidelines for mass gatherings. We are working closely with the [PAS Operating Committee](#), led by Judy Shaw, EdD, MPH, RN, and we are keeping our [PAS Board of Directors](#), led by Bruce Gelb, MD, informed. Both groups include pediatric infectious disease specialists, and we are especially grateful for the service of Drs. David Hunstad and Michelle Gill at this time.

Our first concern is, of course, the health and well-being of our PAS Meeting attendees. To support our attendees the PAS staff have been working closely with Philadelphia venues and services providers to ensure alignment with CDC guidelines. Additional hand-sanitizer stations will be available in PAS Meeting venues, and venues have instituted augmented cleaning and sanitizing schedules, especially in venue common areas. We are also making arrangements for augmented First Aid spaces and staff to support our attendees, a "no-touch" conference protocol if needed and making information on local medical care facilities readily available.

While we feel prepared as an organization should COVID-19 impact the PAS Meeting, we understand our participants may have questions and may need to align with travel requirements imposed by local institutions or authorities. [We welcome your questions](#) and hope you will reach out to us, as needed.

Thank you for your investment in the PAS Meeting and in your diligence with us in practicing CDC-recommended [practices](#) to prevent the spread of this infection. While this is a time of some uncertainty, and such situations can always be disquieting, we are confident the data-driven PAS community is well equipped to remain safe and to support one another during this disquieting time. Thank you for your support.