



March 11, 2020

COVID-19 (Coronavirus) General Information & Management

Dear Friends,

As we continue to learn about the Coronavirus, we feel it important to share information that will be helpful to our community and, most importantly, that is accurate. Below is a general overview, as well as links to information on how to manage Coronavirus.

Overview: A strain of Coronavirus has become widely known for causing a current global pandemic. The disease caused by that Coronavirus is COVID-19. COVID-19 has symptoms that overlap with those of respiratory influenza: fever, breathing difficulty and sputum production leading to coughing and sneezing. COVID-19 has a wide range of severity from a mild cold-like illness to severe breathing difficulty that can lead to death. A major difference between COVID-19 and influenza is that COVID-19 is more likely to kill people with a mortality rate of about 3%. People who are immunocompromised, such as people receiving immunosuppressant treatments for Myasthenia Gravis, are more susceptible to acquire and develop severe cases of COVID-19. Coronavirus primarily spreads from person to person via droplets breathed out, coughed out or sneezed out and also by contaminated surfaces. The best way to avoid contracting COVID-19 is to avoid large collections of people who are in close proximity. This is why the MGFA decided to cancel the 2020 Annual Meeting.

There is much information on the internet about Coronavirus and the disease it induces in humans, COVID-19. The problem is that information on the internet is often not verified and can be presented not to inform, but to direct people's thinking. Two reliable sources of unbiased information about Coronavirus are the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO). Those sites are listed below and the MGFA recommends that people check those sites to learn more and to address their concerns.

Suggested Coronavirus information site(s):

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

<https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

Thank you for your continued support.

Regards,

Ed Walsh, Board Chair

Samm Masterson, CEO