

## ASAM Cancels 51st Annual Conference

Dear Colleague,

After careful consideration, the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) has made the necessary and responsible decision to cancel its 51st Annual Conference, originally scheduled to take place in Denver, CO, April 2-5, 2020. ASAM's decision is based on recent reports from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of rapidly escalating concerns about the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). In addition, it is important that our members and meeting attendees focus on the vital role we play in ensuring the health of patients and communities.

ASAM is exercising its professional responsibility to consider the safety of its meeting participants by modeling social distancing and not contributing to the spread of the virus through a large public gathering such as its annual conference.

Preparing for the conference involves the time, talent, and creativity of a great many of our members, speakers, exhibitors, and event partners. We're incredibly grateful for this and we are deeply disappointed not to be able to hold the in-person conference as planned.

In recognition of ASAM's commitment to offering cutting edge addiction medicine education, we are planning to deliver a virtual program, ASAM Virtual 2020. This program will offer live streamed and recorded sessions available on-demand in the e-Learning Center. This will offer 65-80 hours of CME/CE credit.

If you have already registered to attend the ASAM's 51st Annual Conference, you can learn more about ASAM Virtual 2020, other important information and refunds here.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during these rapidly changing circumstances. The safety and wellbeing of our meeting participants and staff, as well as their families, colleagues, and patients are most important.

Sincerely,

Paul H. Earley, MD, DFASAM

Paul H Earley M.D.

President