



## MARYLAND SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

April 24, 2020

Dear Dr. Marcozzi,

As the President of the Maryland Society of Anesthesiologists (MSA) I am reaching out to you in your capacity as an advisor to Governor Hogan in guiding the State response to the COVID-19 virus. We would like to share with you the attached documents which we hope will be helpful as additional resources for your consideration.

We are strong supporters of the Governor's actions to date, especially with respect to his early decision to halt elective and non-urgent procedures and surgeries. In fact, the MSA submitted a letter to the Governor and the Secretary of Health asking for just that order prior to the Governor's announcement.

Working with Maryland regulators and in discussion with our medical colleagues we are now looking towards the resumption of elective and non-urgent procedures. We all are of the mindset that resuming elective surgeries needs to be methodical and incremental keeping patient, provider, and public safety at the forefront.

There is strong support for the national statement recently issued by The American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), the American College of Surgeons (ACS), the American Hospital Association (AHA), and the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN): **Joint Statement: Roadmap for Resuming Elective Surgery after COVID-19 Pandemic** (attached)

The Joint Statement provides a comprehensive and detailed "*list of principles and considerations to guide physicians, nurses and local facilities in their resumption of care in operating rooms and all procedural areas.*"

We feel the statement issued by the SAMBA (supported by the ASA and the Ambulatory Surgery Center Association (ASCA)) **Society for Ambulatory Anesthesia (SAMBA) Statement** (attached); is a good complementary piece to the ASA-ACS-AHA-AORN joint statement.

On behalf of anesthesiologists in Maryland, the MSA stands ready to work with you and the Governor to develop a comprehensive plan of action in resuming non-urgent and elective procedures.

Haitham AlGrain M.D.

President

Maryland Society of Anesthesiologists

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