



IICMS

Irish Institute of Clinical
Measurement Science

Coronavirus
COVID-19

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CLINICAL MEASUREMENT PHYSIOLOGISTS IN RELATION TO COVID 19.

Dear Colleague,

We would like to provide you with some information on working during this challenging time. As a frontline worker you will need to keep yourself fully informed and protected.

As a first port of call we would like to direct you to the Health Protection Surveillance Centre's website which has the most up to date information and guidance for healthcare workers on the Coronavirus at www.hpsc.ie. You will find many useful resources here including posters and videos. The HSE and WHO websites are also a valuable source of information so do check them regularly. I am sure you are all receiving the most up to date circulars that the HSE are issuing regarding this national emergency, if not you can access them through <https://www2.hse.ie/coronavirus/>.

Infection Prevention and Control

The following educational modules are available on HSE Land and we would recommend that members undertake them:

- Hand Hygiene for HSE Clinical Staff
- Breaking the Chain of Infection
- Introduction to Infection Prevention and Control

For non HSE staff information can be found at:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/guidance/infectionpreventionandcontrolguidance/>

A particularly useful video that we would recommend you all watch is on how to put on and take off personal protective equipment correctly when dealing with suspected or positive Covid 19 cases. The link to the video is as follows:

<https://www.hpsc.ie/a-z/respiratory/coronavirus/novelcoronavirus/videoresources/>

Conference and CPD Events

As you are aware we decided to postpone our annual conference which had been scheduled to take place on 27th March 2020. This decision was made with public safety in mind. We will reschedule the conference at a later date. Any registration fee paid will be refunded in due course. Any CPD events that have been arranged will also be postponed. We will at all times be guided by public health advice in order to protect our members and colleagues.

Redeployment

The IICMS recognise that in such unprecedented times, our members may be called upon to redeploy in order to cover, protect or provide essential frontline services in line with HSE policy. If you are redeployed it is important to remember that while you may be asked to perform tasks or duties outside of your traditional scope of practice you should only operate within the limits of your knowledge, skills, competence and experience.

Working Arrangements

The IICMS recognise the need to provide essential frontline services during this ongoing public health crisis, however we also recognise the need to safeguard our members health and wellbeing. We encourage you to engage with your managers to provide a safe level of service for the service user and for staff. Times like these call for flexibility towards working patterns and helping to work on contingency plans. Each faculty has sent a survey around to heads of departments about how different departments are managing workflow, staffing etc. We will share this information on a dedicated Covid 19 page on our website www.iicms.ie. We would love to hear from you if you have stories to share, for example:

- What is your service doing to make working possible – remote working, virtual meetings, different shifts, or perhaps, something else?
- Have you some really good practice ideas to share with others?
- What way is your employer supporting you to exercise your professional responsibilities?
- Have you been issued with appropriate PPE to carry out any necessary face to face client interactions – Hand sanitiser, gloves, wipes to clean your car etc?

Thank You

In conclusion the IICMS recognises the hard work, dedication, professionalism and commitment to providing a safe and high quality service that our members and colleagues show each and every day. We thank you for this and we proudly stand with you. Your professional and personal resilience will be tested during the coming weeks and months and so we would encourage you to make full use of the tools your employer provides you with and remember our biggest assets are our colleagues and the teams we are part of. Be kind to each other and yourself.

Tanya Byrne

IICMS President