

Dear colleagues,

The ASE Executive Committee held a special call this past Tuesday, March 31, and made the decision to cancel the ASE 2020 Scientific Sessions scheduled to be held in Denver, CO, on June 19-22, 2020.

The decision to cancel our Scientific Sessions was difficult, but the health, well-being, and safety of our members, staff, exhibitors, and attendees is of utmost importance during this COVID-19 pandemic. With the majority of our ASE members on the front lines, it was in the best interest of everyone that we cancel the meeting to ensure the safety of everyone.

We know that our Annual ASE Scientific Sessions are a time that our community, from all over the world, looks forward to every year. We greatly appreciate the effort our Program Planning Committee, led by course chairs **Theodore Abraham**, **MD**, **FASE**, and **Sue Phillip**, **RCS**, **FASE**. We are currently working on a plan to deliver elements of the program and provide access to innovation, resources, and information that will advance your ability to improve patient care. We are also developing ways to recognize our award winners.

The ASE leadership and staff have been working hard to provide <u>COVID-19</u> <u>Resources online</u> including an <u>ASE Statement on Protection of Patients and</u> <u>Echocardiography Service Providers During the 2019 Novel Coronavirus</u> <u>Outbreak</u>.

## **Registration and Hotel Refunds**

For those who had already registered for the Scientific Sessions, you will receive a full refund that will be issued in the next 30 days. Any donations made to the ASE Foundation or membership renewal fees paid when registering for the conference will not be refunded. All hotel reservations made through the ASE room block will be cancelled automatically by the hotel. The one-night deposit paid upon booking the reservation will be refunded back to the original payment method. If you used an alternate booking site, such as Orbitz, Hotels.com, or AAA, you will need to reach out directly and cancel your reservations. ASE is not responsible for cancellation fees imposed by these alternate booking sites.

We have also prepared a **FAQ document** to help with answering travel, refund, and other questions.

I remain in awe of your dedication to our fellow human beings with cardiovascular disease. I am humbled by what I see happening around the world and am deeply proud of our community.

ASE is always there for you. Do not hesitate to reach out to us at any time.

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Madhav Swaminathan, MD, FASE

**ASE President** 

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