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**MID-ATLANTIC STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY COALITION STATEMENT ON
PROTECTING HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS DURING COVID-19**

The medical societies of the Mid-Atlantic region strongly urge action to promote safe working conditions for physicians and other healthcare professionals engaged in patient care:

1. We urge local authorities to ensure an adequate supply and distribution of PPE for every frontline healthcare professional, now. We also urge that adequate planning for potential future supply needs be firmly in place when considering expansion of suspended healthcare activities. Adequate PPE is fundamental to protection of the healthcare workforce and all patients.
2. We support the [American Medical Association \(AMA\) statement](#) allowing the use of private PPE when other safe options do not exist. This does not release institutions responsibilities to ensure provision of adequate PPE to all healthcare personnel.
3. Physicians and other healthcare professionals may appropriately decide that publicly sharing experiences, expertise, concerns, and opinions (including to the news media and on social media) may help achieve needed protections for the health and safety of patients and clinicians. Physicians and other healthcare professionals should not be at risk for employment termination, or other disciplinary actions, for publicly sharing, within their health care systems or beyond, such items.
4. We support the [American Medical Association \(AMA\) statement](#) that “no employer should restrict physicians’ freedom to advocate for the best interest of their patients.”

This statement is modeled from the statement released by the Council of Medical Specialty Societies on April 2, 2020 and the MSDC Statement on Protecting District Physicians During COVID-19.

About MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.

About Medical Society of the District of Columbia

Since 1817, MSDC has been supporting and advocating for patients, physicians, the medical profession and the betterment of public health. Membership is comprised of licensed physicians, medical residents, medical students and allied health professionals in metropolitan Washington. For more information, please visit www.msdc.org.

About Pennsylvania Medical Society

The Pennsylvania Medical Society (PAMED) is a physician-led, member-driven organization representing all physicians and medical students throughout the state. We advocate for physicians and their patients, educate physicians through continuing medical education, and provide expert resources and guidance to help physicians and their organizations navigate challenges in today's ever-evolving health care system. For more information, please visit www.pamedsoc.org.

About Medical Society of Delaware

The Medical Society of Delaware (MSD) is a nonprofit membership organization of more than 1,250 physicians located throughout Delaware representing every specialty practice in the medical field. The mission of the Medical Society of Delaware is to guide, serve and support Delaware Physicians, promoting the practice and profession of medicine to enhance the health of our communities.

About Medical Society of Virginia

The vision of the Medical Society of Virginia is for Virginia to be the best place in which to practice medicine and receive care. The society's purpose is to advance quality health care throughout Virginia.