



**To: Speakers & Registrants of 2020 AAPLOG/ACPeds Matthew Bulfin Educational Conference**

Re: 2020 AAPLOG/ACPeds Matthew Bulfin Educational Conference (MBEC) Meeting:

**Cancellation of in person meeting and conversion to online meeting**

Date: March 3, 2020

Dear Speakers, Joe DeCook Scholarship Recipients and Registrants,

As you are aware, there have been several people diagnosed with the Covid 19 virus infection in the Chicago area over the past 48 hours. The CDC has suggested that conference organizers re-evaluate the possibility of cancelling non-urgent large meetings. The conference organizing committee has been closely investigating the potential risk to 2020 MBEC conference participants. With chagrin we have concluded that, out of an abundance of caution, we will need to cancel the 2020 in person meeting.

However, we are in process of converting the 2020 MBEC conference into an on-line meeting. Further details of that meeting will be forthcoming shortly, including links to access the presentations. You will also be contacted again by separate email regarding reimbursement of your conference fees, and re-registration for the online meeting.

**Existing Hotel Reservations**

I have taken care of cancelling the hotel reservations for speakers and for scholarship recipients at the LaQuinta. If you are a speaker or a Joe DeCook Scholarship recipient, there is nothing you need to do.

**However, MBEC registrants who are not speakers or scholarship recipients will need to cancel their own reservation at LaQuinta.**

**To cancel your hotel reservation without cost, please email the General Manager, Mary, at: LQ7001GM@laquinta.com as soon as possible.**

**Existing Airline Reservations:**

This letter should serve to inform the airlines of the cancellation of the meeting, and to request full reimbursement of already scheduled flights. United, American and Southwest should be willing to reimburse due to this extraordinary circumstance. Please email me [donna@AAPLOG.org](mailto:donna@AAPLOG.org) if you have difficulty recovering your flight costs.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this difficult time.

Donna J. Harrison, M.D. Executive Director, AAPLOG  
Michelle Cretella M.D. Executive Director, American College of Pediatricians

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