



IAHCSMM
Instrumental to Patient Care®

International Association of Healthcare
Central Service Materiel Management

March 13, 2020

To: IAHCSMM Members and Certificants

Re: IAHCSMM's 2020 Annual Conference & Expo Cancelled
Due to COVID 19 Concerns

For weeks, the International Association of Healthcare Central Service Materiel Management (IAHCSMM) has been carefully monitoring the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation and its impact on the upcoming IAHCSMM Annual Conference & Expo, which was to be held in Chicago, Illinois, April 25-29, 2020. Today, the IAHCSMM Board of Directors made the decision to cancel the conference due to health and wellness concerns for attendees and the community.

On March 12, Illinois governor Pritzker officially ordered a 30-day shutdown of public events in the state that would draw more than 1,000 participants, and he encouraged cancellation or postponement of all private and social events of 250 or more people until May 1. This recommendation aligns with recommendations from epidemiologists and other health experts regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. The health and safety of our attendees, speakers, vendors and community has always been IAHCSMM's top priority. Cancelling our conference and expo was determined by IAHCSMM as the only prudent option and is in keeping with the Association's mission and values of improving patient safety and meeting the needs of the healthcare environment.

We understand many of our attendees will have questions about IAHCSMM's next steps, including the refund process and the potential for alternative educational opportunities. Please be assured, we are working to address any concerns and provide more information as soon as possible. We will be updating our online FAQ page (<https://www.iahcsmm.org/conference-covid19-faqs>) regarding COVID-19 and the conference.

Sincerely,

IAHCSMM Board of Directors