

PSOMS Member Alert: COVID-19 Update

04/09/2020

In case you may not be aware of the latest Executive Order by Governor Wolf ([click here](#)) concerning procurement of PPE from private, public, and quasi-public healthcare providers to the government, I wanted to update you. It states that “the Commonwealth has (as of April 5, 2020) used emergency procurement procedures to acquire over \$24 million in personal protective equipment (“PPE”) and other medical resources required to respond to, provide care for those afflicted by, or otherwise prevent the spread of COVID-19, such as N95 face masks, ventilators, respirators, face shields, safety goggles, disinfectants, and other sanitizing solutions to provide to healthcare workers, facilities, and emergency responders....”.

Additionally, it states *“Private, public, and quasi-public healthcare providers and facilities, as well as manufacturers, distributors, and suppliers of PPE, pharmaceuticals, and other medical resources located within the Commonwealth, are required to submit current inventory quantities of PPE, pharmaceuticals, and other medical resources as directed by the Pennsylvania Management Agency within 5 days of this Order and to provide updates subsequently as directed by the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.”* The executive order makes no mention of how PPE inventory is to be reported to the Pennsylvania Management Agency. We believe, according to our sources, that there is not currently a mechanism for such inventory set up and no anticipated action is expected at this time. As this is an Executive Order, there is no discussion and we are required by law to comply.

We are uncertain at this time how this will affect Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons and their ability to treat dental and facial emergencies throughout the Commonwealth. We are in the process of notifying Governor Wolf, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Management Agency, that Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons are essential health care personnel dedicated to treating urgent and emergent oral and facial emergencies throughout the Commonwealth and desperately require their PPE to accomplish this goal. This will thereby relieve Emergency Departments demands and actually preserving much needed PPE and other medical equipment.

I will keep you updated on any developments.

Sincerely,

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President, Pennsylvania Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons