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INTERPORE FlashNEWS

Dear Colleagues,

We are aware of the spread of the coronavirus and the associated implications. Many of you have been wondering what the consequences are for the planned InterPore meeting in May in Qingdao, China.

While some countries have announced warnings to their citizens not to travel to China, the World Health Organization has not decided to declare the coronavirus outbreak in China a public health emergency of international concern. It is not known if such a concern will be announced within the next few weeks, and no one knows if the current travel warnings related to the coronavirus will be relaxed in 1-2 weeks or in 1-6 months. All of us know that such restrictions are always temporary, as in earlier cases with bird flu, Swine flu, Ebola and other pandemics. Please keep in mind that Wuhan is a thousand kilometers away from Qingdao, and Shandong province (where Qingdao is) is not among hot spots for the coronavirus disease.

In the four months leading up to the conference, the InterPore Executive Committee and LOC will be monitoring the situation and the recommendations from WHO in order to determine whether action from InterPore is required. We will keep you informed about all considerations and decisions. For the moment, we are optimistic and believe that in the remaining four months the disease will be under control, and we will have the chance to meet in Qingdao. We ask you not to change your plans for participation in the conference until the situation becomes clearer. Right now, InterPore is considering an extension of the early bird deadline for registration. Please feel free to write us at conference2020@interpore.org if you have any questions.

InterPore Executive Committee and Local Organizing Committee

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