



March 23, 2020

Dear Governor Wolf, Secretary Levine and Director Padfield:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) and our more than 5,500 physician, resident and student members across the Commonwealth, thank you for your continued leadership and all your efforts to protect health care providers, patients and the public from the spread of COVID-19.

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As family physicians, we are on the front lines of this pandemic, committed to treating our patients under any circumstances necessary. This often means seeing patients with confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 without the proper protective gear to ensure our own health and safety. We understand the Administration has taken steps to try to obtain unused sources of personal protective equipment (PPE) supplies and has approached manufacturers about repurposing manufacturing lines to produce masks – thank you. Your efforts to address the shortage of PPE supplies with the federal government, manufacturers and the business community will help ensure that health care providers can continue to safely treat patients.

I cannot stress enough how important PPE supplies are to our members; whether they are employed by a health system or an independent practice. Please consider family medicine physicians when allocating these life-saving provisions.

As you work to address this particular issue, please know that we are here to help with either technical assistance and/or communications. Together, we can help fight the spread of COVID-19 and effectively treat those who have been affected.

Sincerely,

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