COVID-19: EFORT's official statement for Vienna 2020

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Dear EFORT Community,

With major events being cancelled worldwide over the past few days, we know that many in our community are wondering about this year's EFORT Annual Congress in Vienna.

The <u>21st EFORT Annual Congress</u> is due to take place from 10 to 12 June, three months from now, and the EFORT Board and teams continue with the organization of the congress with the aim of delivering prime orthopaedic and trauma education.

We are very enthusiastic about the ongoing support of industry and attendees who continue to register. To date we have not experienced any substantial impact as a result of the coronavirus outbreak, though we are taking account of all developments in our planning. Mindful of our duty of care, and placing the safety & health of all participants as the absolute priority, we want to reassure you that we are working on what the appropriate sanitary and related health measures should be.

We feel our community can maintain its professional development to sustain solidarity throughout the European and Global Orthopaedics and Traumatology profession. Nevertheless it is our responsibility to act with discernment by collaborating and discussing with our partners in Austria, health authorities & scientists to implement and keep abreast of their advice. We want to stay alert in this situation but we are also focused on delivering a high quality scientific programme. May we take this opportunity to share our strong beliefs in the scientific, educational as well as social benefits that can be derived from pan-European large scale meetings such as the EFORT Annual Congress.

We will be updating our various information channels with the latest developments and invite you to check back on regular basis.

In the meantime we look forward to welcoming you to Vienna and wish you and your families all the best for the challenges ahead in the fight against Covid-19.

The EFORT Board and teams