



20 March, 2020

Dear Members of GCI,

On behalf of GCI Executive Committee, after careful consideration and evaluation of the COVID-19 outbreak worldwide, it is with regret that I announce the cancellation of the GCI Spring meeting scheduled for May 27-29, 2020 in Chicago. This was a very difficult decision to make but given the circumstance, we believe it is the only choice we have.

We have been closely monitoring the developments with the rapid spread of the coronavirus and the outbreaks of COVID-19, worldwide over the last several weeks. After surveying the GCI Executive Board of Directors we found that for the majority of groups, international travel is not possible at this time. Given that we cannot predict the situation for the end of May, but knowing the impact this virus has already had, we felt the best option is to cancel the face to face meeting in Chicago.

The plan now is to hold a Web-based meeting, and we will let you know as soon as the date/time and format has been confirmed.

The health, safety, and security of all our members and the patients we serve is our highest priority. I hope all of you will understand that this has been a difficult decision. Our heartfelt sympathies go out to everyone who has been affected by this global health crisis, and please stay safe.

Sincerely yours,

Keiichi Fujiwara
GCI Chair