Guidance for Bone Marrow Failure Patients to Protect Against Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Presenters:

**Mikkael Sekeres, MD, MS**
Director, Leukemia Program and Vice Chair, Clinical Research
Cleveland Clinic Cancer Center
Chair of the AAMDSIF Medical Advisory Board

**Isabel Schuermeyer, MD**
Psychiatrist, Cleveland Clinic
Chair of the AAMDSIF Patient Education Council
Preventive Measures to Protect Against Coronavirus:

• Refrain from touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.

• Wash your hands often for at least 20 seconds with soap and water or using a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

• Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. Discard the tissue and clean your hands. If a tissue is not available, cough or sneeze into your elbow.

• Avoid shaking hands with others.

• Avoid close contact with people who are sick, and discourage people from visiting your home if they have any symptoms of illness.
Preventive Measures to Protect Against Coronavirus (continued):

• Clean frequently touched objects and surfaces with household cleaning spray or antibacterial wipes (for example: tables, doorknobs, light switches, handles, toilets, faucets, laptops, keyboards and cell phones).

• Avoid travel as much as possible.

• Avoid crowds and large gatherings, especially in poorly ventilated areas.

• To the extent possible, avoid contact with high-touch surfaces in public places, such as elevator buttons, door handles, hand rails, touchscreens, etc.

• Flat surfaces, in particular, are more likely to have viruses or bacteria.

• Contact your physician with any questions or concerns specific to your condition.

• Know where to go for COVID-19 testing, as some local clinics may not have the resources or facility to do the COVID-19 testing or even see you.
For patients during active and post-ATG treatment, bone marrow transplant recovery or other bone marrow failure therapy:

• Continue to keep your medical appointments – do not skip your scheduled treatments (medical centers are taking extra precautions to prevent the transmission of coronavirus).

• Continue to adhere to your neutropenic diet, if you follow one.

• Take steps to ensure you have a 3-month supply of your medication and possibly arrange mail order delivery of your meds.

• Be prepared to self-quarantine yourself for up to 14 days where necessary and consult your physician regarding ongoing blood transfusions and treatment.

For more information especially for those at higher risk for complications, visit the Centers for Disease Control: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/specific-groups/high-risk-complications.html
Follow the latest updates from trusted sources:

- NIH at https://www.nih.gov/health-information/coronavirus
- WHO at https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus
Thank you to our 2020 educational supporters including patients, families, caregivers and generous corporate partners.
• For up-to-date guidance, webinar links, resources and Frequently Asked Questions on COVID-19, visit www.aamds.org/education/covid-19

• Contact AAMDSIF via email to help@aamds.org

• Call AAMDSIF at (800) 747-2820, ext. 2

• Follow the AAMDSIF Facebook page, www.facebook.com/aamds

The AAMDSIF Medical Advisory Board and Staff are here to help you and your family, as we have for the past 36 years.