

RESOLUTION

Subject: Personal Protective Equipment
Submitted by: Greater Louisville Medical Society
Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, the 2020 SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus pandemic depleted personal protective equipment in hospitals across the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has stated that the shortage of personal protective equipment has left physicians, nurses and other frontline workers dangerously ill-equipped to care for COVID-19 patients due to limited access to gloves, masks, respirators, goggles, face shields, and gowns; and

WHEREAS, the effects of the SARS-CoV-2 have disrupted supply chains of personal protective equipment globally, nationally, and locally; and

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association issued a statement in support of health care workers using their own face masks and respirators when such critical resources were unavailable nor provided by their employer; and

WHEREAS, physicians, nurses, respiratory therapists, and other allied medical and support professionals were required to reuse personal protective equipment in less than ideal containment; and

WHEREAS, states and other localities have had to compete in order to acquire personal protective equipment and are outbid for the purchase of personal protective equipment by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and

WHEREAS, the threat of another global pandemic is constantly evolving now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the KMA advocate the Commonwealth and its hospitals to maintain a strategic personal protective equipment supply for use by health care personnel, including physicians, with the ability to sustain statewide hospital and pre-hospital operations during a declared emergency. This strategic supply of personal protective equipment should include N-95 masks, gowns, face masks, face shields, and gloves.