Groups audience: 2020 Vascular Annual Meeting

COVID-19 Update  Passport Requirements  Air Travel  Ground Transportation  Taxi Service

Coronavirus Update: April 1, 2020, 12:00 pm CT

SVS is receiving many inquiries regarding VAM 2020 in Toronto and appreciates all the communications from members and update notices regarding institutional and workplace travel bans.

The SVS EB met March 31 to discuss VAM 2020 and plans moving forward. Given the current and projected challenges presented by COVID-19, and the likely recuperation period in its aftermath, it is increasingly clear that holding VAM 2020 in Toronto is unlikely. Just yesterday, the City of Toronto issued a new edict to cancel all public events and close many public buildings through June 30. SVS has reached out to the convention center and hotels to clarify and confirm that this edict renders Toronto unable to host the VAM June 17-20. SVS appreciates your patience over the next few days as it works to protect the health and safety of its members and VAM attendees, as well as the Society. As soon as SVS has a confirmed path, members will be notified immediately. In the interim, the SVS Program Committee and Post-Graduate Education Committee have embarked on planning for potential alternatives. Please stay tuned to the weekly PULSE for further updates.

Our first concern, of course, is the health, safety, and security of SVS members, their patients and all stakeholders planning to attend VAM. SVS leadership is actively and closely monitoring this evolving situation and meeting regularly and will continue regular communications with members, VAM attendees, partners and stakeholders as the situation develops.

Part of our monitoring process includes the tracking of our members’ institution-imposed travel bans. Please review the of known list of travel bans. If your institution is not currently listed and has instituted a travel ban, please let us know by email.

SVS continues to follow published guidance of national and local health authorities, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the World Health Organization (WHO) and encourage attendees to take commonsense precautions and follow CDC guidelines to prevent the spread of illness. For additional information see the links.
below.

We will continue to update you via our website, vascular.org, editions of the weekly PULSE, social media channels, and email. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact SVS at 800-258-7188 or via email.

Additional resources:
World Health Organization
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
AMA Resource Center for Physicians
SVS COVID-19 Resources

Passport Requirements
All U.S. residents entering Canada will be required to travel with a valid passport. To begin the passport application process, please visit the USA.GOV website. Your passport expiration date may not be within six months of your travel dates. For additional information (including passport requirements for international travelers), please visit the Canada Border Services Agency’s website.

Canada Border Services Agency

Americans With Disabilities Act Accommodations

Registrants who need specialized accommodations to participate in the Vascular Annual Meeting (i.e., large print or Braille materials; assistance obtaining motorized scooter rentals) should check the “Yes” box under Disability Accommodations on the Attendee Meeting Registration Form. Someone from the SVS office will call to discuss how we may assist you.
Air Travel -- Toronto Pearson International Airport

Toronto is served by two airports. **Toronto Pearson International Airport**, managed by the Greater Toronto Airport Authority is Canada’s principal airport with travel connections to every continent and ranks among the top 30 world airports in terms of passenger traffic and aircraft movements. There are over 76 scheduled and charter airlines currently serving Toronto Pearson International Airport and air carriers provide non-stop service to numerous destinations in Canada, the United States and the world. Pearson airport is located approximately 30 minutes from downtown Toronto.

**Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport** (formerly Toronto City Centre Airport) is one of the most convenient urban airports in the world. It is located on Toronto Island, minutes from the downtown core with links to the city by a short ferry ride or pedestrian tunnel, and is served by both Porter Airlines and Air Canada. Porter provides a unique and personal flying experience with air connections to regional Canadian and U.S. destinations.

Ground Transportation

For information on options (such as bus or rail) to downtown Toronto from Pearson International airport, please visit the airport’s website.

Airport Taxi Service

Taxi fares from Pearson International Airport to downtown Toronto are approximately CAN$50-$60*.

*all pricing is estimated as of August, 2019 and based on one-way trip excluding tax, tolls and tip