



South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society (incorporated in Victoria) A0020660B

C/- Australian & New Zealand  
College of Anaesthetists  
630 St Kilda Rd  
Melbourne 3004

12<sup>th</sup> March 2020

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF SPUMS AND CONVENER 2020  
SPUMS ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING, TUTUKAKA, NEW ZEALAND**

Dear members, conference delegates and accompanying guests.

It is with regret that the Executive Committee of the South Pacific Underwater Medicine Society has today announced the cancellation of our Annual Scientific Meeting planned for 19-24 April 2020 at Tutukaka based on the rapidly evolving situation around COVID-19 (Coronavirus). In addition, the World Health Organisation has declared Corona virus outbreak a pandemic. This is an unprecedented situation in our living memory.

The decision has not been made lightly, but the Executive believes the Society needs to respond appropriately to recent travel restrictions imposed on many of our delegates by Australian and New Zealand Health Services, current advice from the New Zealand Ministry of Health, and to eliminate health risks for delegates associated with travelling to and attending the meeting.

The ASM organising team are currently working through the process of cancellation and will contact all delegates with more information as it becomes available.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David Smart'.

Clinical Professor David Smart  
SPUMS President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'DR Greg van der Hulst'.

DR Greg van der Hulst  
SPUMS 2020 ASM Convener

On behalf of SPUMS Executive Committee