

July 28, 2020

Dear members and followers,

We are now in the second half of 2020 and WCO would like to acknowledge all of you for your ongoing efforts to move forward and be a guiding light for others as we try to navigate out of the pandemic. It takes a community effort to make a notable difference and it is not easy, so we would like to say thank you for your efforts in the fight against COVID-19. Although we are not yet fully recovered globally, with continued planning and thoughtful execution we can continue to take steps in the right direction.

Governments have taken different approaches to contain COVID-19, and many countries are still battling the virus. Some areas might be facing the second or third wave of the pandemic. Until a vaccine is found and is accessible, it is just as important as it was in the beginning of 2020 to continue to take precautions. Therefore, we would like to recirculate some of the basic guidelines to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. With new information coming in daily, reminders can always bring us back to basic principles that otherwise may be forgotten or overlooked. These and more information can be found on our <u>COVID-19 news page</u> and the World Health Organization's (WHO) website.

- Proper handwashing technique
- How to wear a mask safely
- Social distancing and other guidelines

The WCO is here to support you and we will continue to release information as the situation evolves. In the meantime, stay safe and well.

Sincerely,

Mr. Paul Folkesson World Council of Optometry President