

In response to a coordinated effort to discredit public health officials, ASM, the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) and the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) issued the following letter to Vice President Pence demonstrating support for public health officials who are prioritizing science-based public health strategies to address the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dear Vice President Pence:

During a national public health emergency, it is vital that we lead with science and with the best data available. Our continued response to and successful recovery from the COVID-19 crisis depends on adherence to sound scientific and public health guidance from the experts, including Dr. Anthony Fauci, who have made the health and safety of the public the top priority.

As organizations representing thousands of researchers, public health professionals, health care providers and others serving in scientific and health care professional fields, we object to any attempt to cast doubt on science and sow mistrust for public health expertise, and to spread misinformation during this challenging time for all Americans. Such efforts not only put the health of our population in greater peril, but also undermine the work underway to move our country beyond the pandemic and return to normalcy.

SARS-CoV-2 is a novel virus and COVID-19 is a new condition with which we have no prior experience. As is the case with any new pathogen or disease, we are learning in real time. Public health and medicine are inherently dynamic fields that adapt as the science evolves. We have embarked on an unprecedented global effort to develop medical countermeasures and refine public health guidance, and as this work uncovers new knowledge, recommendations can and will change. By heeding the recommendations of those who are on the front lines of progress to combat this virus, we have the best chance at a successful outcome.

Sincerely,

American Society for Microbiology  
Association of Public Health Laboratories  
Infectious Diseases Society of America  
AcademyHealth  
African American Health Alliance  
American Academy of HIV Medicine  
American Association for Anatomy  
American Association for Dental Research  
American Association for Respiratory Care  
American Association for the Advancement of Science  
American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy  
American Association of Immunologists  
American Association of Physics Teachers  
American Institute of Biological Sciences  
American Physiological Society  
American Public Health Association  
American Society for Cell Biology  
American Society for Clinical Pathology  
American Society for Investigative Pathology  
American Society for Reproductive Medicine  
American Society for Virology  
American Society of Hematology  
American Society of Pediatric Nephrology  
American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene  
American Sociological Association  
American Thoracic Society  
Association for Psychological Science  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Schools and Programs of Public Health  
AVAC  
Baruch S. Blumberg Institute

Big Cities Health Coalition  
Biophysical Society  
Black AIDS Institute  
Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation  
Coalition for the Life Sciences  
Consortium of Universities for Global Health  
Council of Scientific Society Presidents  
Cure HHT  
Endocrine Society  
Genetics Society of America  
Hepatitis B Foundation  
HIV Medicine Association  
Institute for Systems Biology  
Institute of Food Technologists  
International Society for Stem Cell Research  
Jeffrey Modell Foundation  
LUNgevity Foundation  
NASTAD  
National Association of County and City Health Officials  
Natural Science Collections Alliance  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
Prevention Institute  
Safe States Alliance  
Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Honor Society  
Society of General Internal Medicine  
Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists (SIDP)  
Society of Toxicology  
STChealth LLC  
The Histochemical Society  
Treatment Action Group  
Trust for America's Health  
Vaccinate Your Family  
Washington State Department of Health  
AIDS Foundation Chicago  
American Statistical Association

North Carolina AIDS Action Network  
IRMA - International Rectal Microbicide Advocates  
HealthHIV  
Positive Women's Network-USA  
National Coalition for LGBT Health  
The Well Project  
Cascade AIDS Project  
Latinos Salud  
Entomological Society of America  
AIDS Alabama  
San Francisco AIDS Foundation  
American Crystallographic Association  
North American Vascular Biology Organization  
American College of Nuclear Medicine (ACNM)  
AIDS United  
AIDS Action Baltimore  
International Association of Providers of AIDS Care  
WVU Health Sciences Center  
American Society for Gravitational and Space Research  
International Association of Providers of AIDS Care  
Institute of Mathematical Statistics  
American Urological Association  
The AIDS Institute  
IAVI  
Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America  
Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology  
American Medical Technologists  
Federation of American Scientists  
Pan American Society for Clinical Virology  
Association of American Medical Colleges  
North American Society for Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and  
Nutrition  
National Association of School Nurses  
AIDS Alliance for Women, Infants, Children, Youth & Families  
International Mammalian Genome Society

International Society on Thrombosis and Haemostasis (ISTH)  
American Society for Nutrition