

AMERICAN THORACIC SOCIETY

ATS COVID-19 GIVING IMPACT REPORT - 2020

Michelle Turenne
Chief of Development
July 2021



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PULMONARY • CRITICAL CARE • SLEEP

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Grateful Thanks from the ATS President

"We at the ATS are deeply grateful for the support provided by the ATS COVID-19 Crisis Fund. This fund truly helped us fulfill our educational, research, clinical, and advocacy missions during an unprecedented crisis. More importantly, the COVID-19 fund yielded both immediate and long-term benefits to our members and our patients, particularly those in vulnerable communities."

Juan C. Celedón, MD, DrPH, ATSF
President – American Thoracic Society
Niels K. Jerne Professor of Pediatrics
Professor of Medicine, Epidemiology and Human Genetics
University of Pittsburgh
Division Chief, Pulmonary Medicine
UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh



ATS Covid-19 Crisis Fund

The Impact of your generosity

The Covid -19 Crisis Fund is being used to support the ATS's efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic

- Development and dissemination of educational resources based on the latest info re: prevention and treatment of COVID-19 and other related conditions
- Support rapid info collection and dissemination
- Develop rapid response capabilities that provide expert recommendations for questions lacking evidence
- Provide resources for clinicians needing to expand their skill set



Immediate Impact: Expanded Technical Capacity

- The different forums, webinars and resources also resulted in rapid distribution of information that the PCCM community could trust.

"I think from my perspective the significant benefit of your support for the COVID Crisis Fund was our ability to expand technical capacity to meet unprecedented demand. As the magnitude of the problem became more apparent there was a never-ending need to expand our online networking capabilities, specifically through Zoom and GoToWebinar.

And while the benefits were unquestioned the funds to support this increased usage were clearly beyond our original budget. Nevertheless, because of this support, we increased our usage of Zoom in a few short weeks by 300% since March 1st, 2020. In fact, we didn't think twice about it. We just did it ... because we could. Thank you!"

- Stephen Altobelli, ATS Chief of Operations



Immediate and Sustained Impact: Real-Time Peer to Peer Learning

- With so much misinformation and confusion, hearing directly from others involved in the COVID response gave our members and attendees firsthand accounts of what to anticipate without filters or spin.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the information sharing that these forums facilitated saved lives, sped up protocol development for exhausted teams, and assisted with growing the body of COVID evidence from nothing to where we are today."

– Eileen Larsson, ATS Chief Program Officer

Immediate and Sustained Impact: Reinforced ATS as a Global Community

"The extra capacity on Zoom and GoToWebinar was more than just a means of conveying information, it was actually a critically important form of support, community and wellness for the Pulmonary and Critical Care physicians, particularly during the early part of the pandemic."

- Eileen Larsson, ATS Chief Program Officer

"It was somehow very therapeutic to see everyone on the call. Among other things, this is a very isolating time, and it was just nice to be with so many friends and colleagues all just trying to work together to figure out what to do."

– Dr. Neil Schluger, Chief, Division of Pulmonary, Allergy and Critical Care Medicine – Columbia University (April 5, 2020)

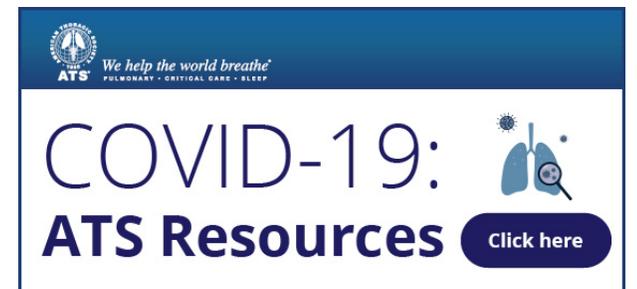


Summary of ATS resources to fight COVID-19

- Related activities include:
 - **COVID19: Interim Guidance** on Management Pending Empirical Evidence; Kevin Wilson participated in an NIH/FDA workgroup
 - **6+ public statements** from the EC
 - **30+ Joint letters to Congress/Trump administration** – urging greater coordination for PPE, financial and medical resources, supporting public health measures, science and vaccines, etc.; virtual Hill visits and meetings with NIH officials
 - **75 Webinars** – ATS-only and in collaboration with peer societies thru 2020
 - **15 Patient and Public Health Series publications**
 - **Discussion groups** – facilitated peer-to-peer collaboration
 - **Collaboration** with industry on COVID-19 trial design and subject recruitment for available trials

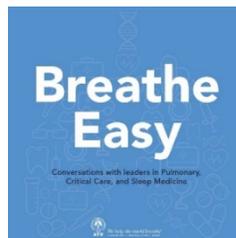


Past ATS
Webinars



COVID-related activities ... continued

- **Training Forums** – for early career and non-critical care physicians
- **Journals** – publication of up-to-the-minute research **Podcasts** – discussion of new research, practices, findings
- **Twitter Chats** – Online, instantaneous sharing of experiences
- **COVID Updates** – email highlights of weekly activities
- **Research grants** – 2 at \$50K each (supported by GSK)
- **...and More!**



"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."
— Helen Keller

NEW!

Webinar Series
COVID-19 Critical Care Training Forum
Tuesday, May 12, 8–9 p.m. ET | [Register Now](#)
For: Early Career Professionals or Non-ICU Trained Health Care Providers
Topics:

- Long-Term Mechanical Ventilation of COVID-19 Patients — Adjusting Vent Settings

Top Line Results: ATS COVID Resource Usage

Category	Participation
Live Webinar/Zoom Participants	17,216
Archived Access of Webinar/Zoom Programs	17,562
ATS 2018 and 2019 Store Archive Downloads on Critical Care/ARDS	1,144
Patient and Public Health Series Downloads	69,992
Journal Articles Citations	3,918
Journal Podcast Listens	7,380
Journal Article Downloads	1,298,498
Journal Video Views	44,980
Total Interactions with ATS COVID Content: March 15, 2020 – February 1, 2021	1,460,690++



Feature Program: Pulm/Critical Care Division Directors Calls

- Held every Sunday night from 8:30 -10:00 pm for months, these calls included presentations, case studies and real-time discussions as the understanding of the disease and its sequelae became more apparent.

"Questions in the March and April discussion chats asking about visitor policies during the dying process, whether anyone could share a protocol for terminal extubation in comfort care cases that minimized aerosol exposure for their team, how different hospitals were handling the ethics associated with ventilator allocation, and how to care for a COVID patient with ARDS who was in her second trimester of pregnancy were inevitably met responses of with 'I have something I can send you'."

- Eileen Larsson, Chief Program Officer



Feature Program: Critical Care Training Forum



**ATS COVID-19
Critical Care
Training Forum**

- The COVID-19 Critical Care Training Forum (CCTF) focuses on teaching critical care topics followed by an open discussion for early career professionals and non-ICU trained healthcare providers.
 - Case Based Learning with Panel Discussions
 - Thirty-one events have been held to date and all are available for free viewing on demand
- Objectives:
 - To help in the care of COVID-19 patients by training non-PCC physicians in the assessment and treatment of COVID-19/ viral pneumonia / ARDS.
 - To help medical practitioners feel less anxious and more confident in caring for COVID-19 patients during the pandemic.
 - To widely share best practices in the care of COVID-19 patients
- Target audience:
 - Non-PCC trained healthcare practitioners of all levels, students, house staff, attendings, physician assistants, nurses, NP, respiratory therapists, etc.

Global Reach and Impact of the CCTF



**ATS COVID-19
Critical Care
Training Forum**

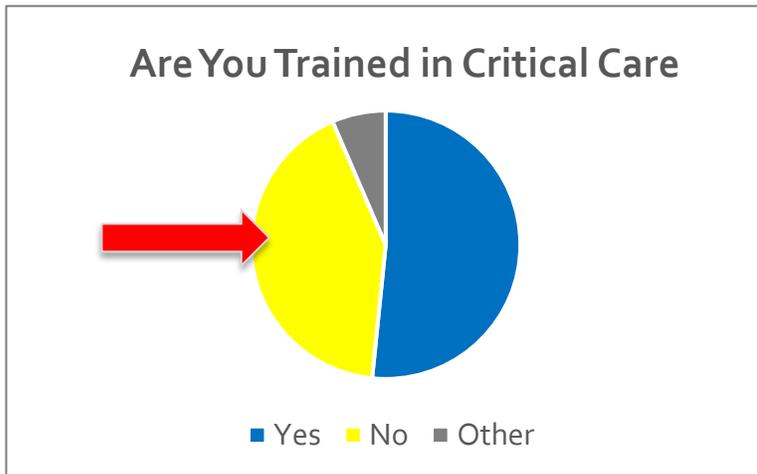


- Totals to date:
 - Registered: 11,763
 - Live: 4,343
 - Views and Downloads: 18,717
- Average attendees (Range)
 - Live: 149 (70 – 501)
 - Views and Downloads: 668 (184 – 3,607)
- Programs are still being held (2-3 per month)

Critical Care Training Forum Impact



Level of Training	
In-Training Student	13.98%
In-Training Resident	3.23%
In-Training Fellow	10.75%
Completed training	72.04%

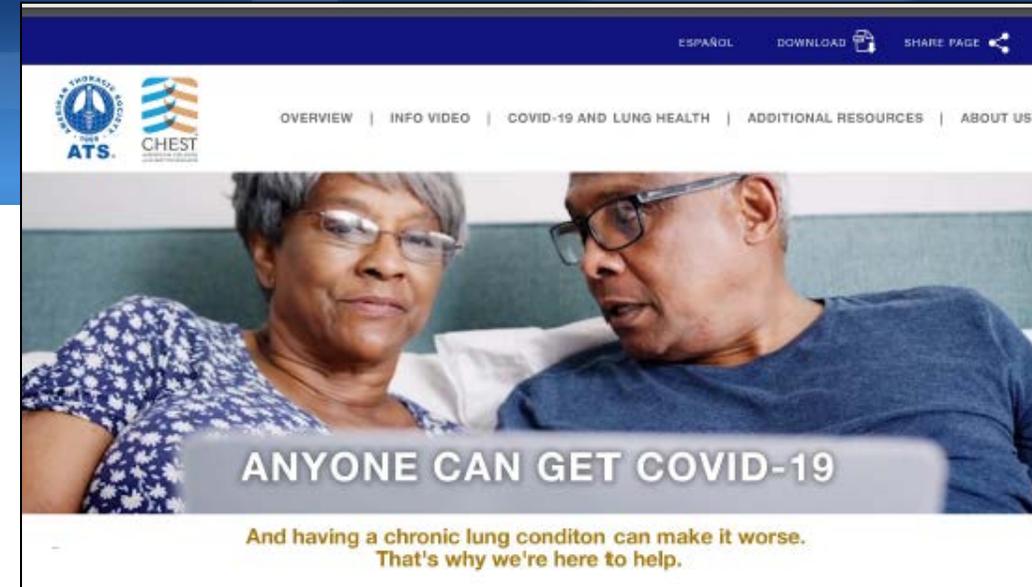


Why did you register for this program?

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
To gain additional training on how to care for COVID patients	67.74%
To ease my anxiety about potentially caring for COVID patients	15.05%
To increase my critical care knowledge	59.14%
To learn key points on how to ventilate patients with COVID	23.66%
To learn about management of post-COVID symptoms	73.12%
<u>Responses</u> Other (please specify) "I'm a COVID survivor too"	2.15%

Feature Program: Focus on African American and Latinx Communities

- Launched June 15th in the 50 hardest-hit COVID-19 zip codes in the US
 - Heavily populated by persons of color
 - Added Cherokee Nation zip codes
- **ForYourLungHealth.com webpage**
 - 0:30 second video – YouTube and other social media platforms
 - Materials in English and Spanish
 - Links to disease-specific resources in asthma, COPD, PF and IPF, and other lung diseases
- Reached **2.6M video views and 40K web visits** in seven weeks
- Co-branded with CHEST
- Supported by an educational grant from GSK and donation from Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.



Feature Program: Clinical Trial Protocol Discussions

- The ATS convened experts in pulmonary and critical care from Assembly leadership and the VA Health System to provide timely feedback on COVID-19 clinical trial designs
 - Current and evolving understanding of the disease
 - Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria
 - Necessary changes in informed consent
 - Navigating which centers have capacity for trials and which are full
- Held approximately 25 different focus groups, usually within 48-72 hours of the request at no cost
- Good model for any clinical trial discussions moving forward

Feature Program: New ATS Research Program Grants

2020 ATS Research Program Cycle – Announced March 2021

ATS/GSK Research Award in COVID-19

- \$50,000 – One Year Award



Sivasubramaniam Bhavani, MD, MS
Emory University
“Identification of Novel COVID-19
Subphenotypes Using Temperature
Trajectories”

“My long-term career goal is to become an independent physician-scientist with expertise in using machine learning algorithms to discover precision medicine approaches to treating heterogeneous critical care syndromes such as sepsis. The multicenter data infrastructure that I build with this grant will have direct use in my future sepsis research. Similarly, the methodology I develop through this ATS grant will directly inform my research during my K23 to discover novel sepsis subphenotypes. ”

- Dr. Bhavani

Feature Program: New ATS Research Program Grants

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\$50,000 – One Year Award



Syed Saif Hassan, PhD, MsC
University of Maryland
“Molecular Lipidomics of a
Therapeutic Target in
Coronavirus Assembly”

“The ATS/GSK Research Grant in COVID19 has provided me with resources to investigate the structural basis of coronavirus-host membrane interactions. As a junior investigator, this is a crucial step towards expanding my independent research program into the exciting field of viral hijacking of host resources, which would allow us to determine common principles underlying the pathogenesis of epidemic causing viruses.”

- Dr. Hassan

Feature Program: New ATS Research Program Grants

2020 ATS Research Program Cycle – Announced March 2021

ATS/Mallinckrodt Research Grant on COVID-19 in Underrepresented Minorities

- \$50,000 – One Year Award



Neelima Navuluri, MD
Duke University
“Prospective Study of Racial Disparities in Pulmonary and QOL Outcomes among COVID-19 Survivors”

“This study will identify targets for future implementation studies to improve health equity among Black people. It will provide preliminary data for career development award applications focused on racial and ethnic disparities in pulmonary disease.”

- Dr. Navuluri

Feature Program: New ATS Research Program Grants

2020 ATS Research Program Cycle – Announced March 2021

CHEST Foundation/ATS Research Award in COVID-19 and Disparities

- \$50,000 – One Year Award



Peter Jackson, MD
Virginia Commonwealth
University
“The Effect of the COVID-19
Pandemic on Tuberculosis Care
in Uganda”

“The CHEST Foundation/ATS Research Grant in COVID and Diversity will have a profound effect on my career. My research, which focuses on the effect of the COVID19 pandemic on TB care, has allowed collaboration between our research team and six TB clinics across the country. This consortium will serve as a valuable network for ongoing research into TB in Uganda.”
- Dr. Jackson

Feature Program: DocMatter Community

Pilot ATS DocMatter Community was launched in April 2020 to support knowledge transfer among members during early phases of COVID-19 pandemic.

Since then, ATS members have initiated discussions extending across a range of clinical topics, establishing the ATS DocMatter Community as a space for a critical cross-section of over 18,000 specialists to share observations, questions, emerging data and collective experience to drive better patient outcomes.

"I check ATS DocMatter frequently to catch up on opinions and other valuable practical information. I browse during down time to see what others are posting more and more. Keep up the good work."

- Mary Jo S. Farmer MD Sleep Medicine, Pulmonology
and Critical Care Medicine, Assistant Professor, Springfield
MA, United States



Feature Program: DocMatter Community



No. of active users who have had >5 interactions with the ATS DocMatter Community since April 2020	13,059 (70% of members)
No. of very interactive users who have had >20 interactions with the ATS DocMatter Community since April 2020	8,775 (47% of members)
No. of power users who have had >50 interactions with the ATS DocMatter Community since April 2020	4,707 (25% of members)
No. of unique discussions	145 discussions
No. of topics discussed	62 topics covering 207 subjects
Average no. of replies to each discussion	6.3 replies
Average no. of replies to the Top 5 most highly viewed discussions	20.2 replies

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We gratefully acknowledge the following companies for their generous support!



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Pre- Pandemic Photo



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