Summary of the CAPA Online Town Hall Meeting on COVID-19

Start time: 2:09PM (EDT) 3/23/2020
End time: 3:55PM (EDT) 3/23/2020
Attended: Lanjing Zhang as the host, and 28 CAPA members.
Excused: Huan-You Wang, co-chair, CAPA COVID-19 committee

Discussion:

1. Dr Zhang presented the preliminary report of the COVID-19 committee
2. The committee surveyed more than 10 vendors and several options to use the received donations
3. The committee recommended to purchase medical N95 masks with assistance from Association of the Chinese American Physicians (Contact Dr Ruliang Xu), among other approaches.
4. Many attendees shared their concerns on mask shortages and difficulty in purchasing trustable masks.
5. Dr Ruliang Xu explained and answered the questions regarding the purchase process and their prior experiences.
6. The majority of the attendees commented on the proposed action plans, and agreed to purchase 5,000 medical N95 masks with ACAP’s assistance.
7. The majority also agreed to purchase additional FDA-cleared level-2 or -3 surgical masks upon available.
8. Attendees entertained how to best dispense/donate the masks. One is to dispense in small batch (100 each) to 50 spots, but the majority agreed to dispense 500 (may be up to 1,000) N95 to each of the selected big-name or mask-deprived hospitals. A survey will be sent to seek nominations of the hospitals or regions with most needs.
9. Some attendees would like to purchase level-2 surgical masks for their local hospitals or regions. Dr Xu will be contacted by those members.
10. One member wanted to purchase some medical N95 masks for her hospital. This will be discussed off line.

Submitted by Lanjing Zhang, Chair, CAPA COVID-19 committee
Reviewed by Zaibo Li, Co-Chair, CAPA COVID-19 committee