



Letter to the Editor
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR: UROLOGY IN THE FACE OF COVID-19

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Dear Editor,

As healthcare professionals grapple with COVID-19, with the outbreak straining some healthcare systems more than others, the effect on medical specialties has been substantial.¹⁻⁵

I would like to highlight how this millennium's pandemic indirectly brought the urological community together amidst chaos in COVID-19 Urology & Me,⁶ the first-of-its kind international virtual webinar, which I organized on 25th April 2020. Key recommendations from this webinar include:

- The need for guidelines on managing outpatient and surgical patients, priority urological services as well as maintaining residency training for urology departments. The British Association of Urological Surgeons has prepared endourology guidelines for COVID-19 management.
- Telehealth video visits (consultation with limited physical examination supervised by the physician through video conferencing), should be integrated into the clinical workflow.
- Other telehealth capabilities which include webinars and social media may be the modus operandi in the post-COVID-19 era to ensure fast and reliable information. Research and education not related to COVID-19 can be moved online via Zoom or Webex (e.g., EMPIRE urology lecture series, American Urological Association resources). Urology e-learning platform, such as ULTOE, which has 5000 urologists from various countries as members, provides free and updated content for the urological community and was used to host this webinar.

As highlighted by Prof Darron Smith, SARS-CoV-2 may have a protracted indolent course, and urologists must prepare be willing to incorporate new strategies in managing patient safely whilst ensuring their own without compromising quality of care.

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