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March 9, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

As you aware, the World Health Organization declared on January 31, 2020 the coronavirus constitutes a “public health emergency of international concern.” The confirmed cases in Orange County led the Orange County Board of Supervisors to declare a local emergency and Orange County Health Officer to declare a local health emergency. Similarly, California Governor Gavin Newsome declared a State of Emergency for California on March 4, 2020.

In consideration of these declarations, the Global Surgical Conference & Expo, presented by the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses, scheduled to take place March 28 through April 1 at the Anaheim Convention Center, was cancelled by the AORN Board of Directors on March 6.

Our 8,500 participants are front-line nurses and healthcare professionals who must remain in their communities to meet their obligations to help direct and implement response activities related to the virus. Most importantly, AORN could not promise our participants’ their health and well-being should they attend the conference.

We are requesting your airline provide refunds or credits for the tickets of the participants who have been impacted by the cancellation of the AORN 2020 Expo. Thank you for considering this request and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at Expo2020Inquiry@aorn.org.

Sincerely,

Linda Groah, MSN, RN, CNOR, NEA-BC, FAAN
CEO/Executive Director
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses (AORN)