

› Information Regarding the Coronavirus Situation

Dear ICAMERs,

We are currently closely monitoring the COVID-19/SARS-CoV-2 (Coronavirus) situation and its impact on the ICAME 41 conference in Heidelberg. As you have undoubtedly seen in the news, many larger international events have had to be canceled due to the growing risk profile.

While no final decisions have been made yet, and we certainly do not want to be alarmist, we want to inform you of the current state of affairs as transparently as possible.

German authorities (*Robert Koch Institute*), as of March 2nd, are considering the health risk as moderate with a chance of the overall situation getting worse. Therefore, we are currently in the process of carefully assessing whether the conference can take place as planned.

Actions we are currently taking include:

- Monitoring the situation in Germany and neighboring countries as closely as possible.
- Postponing finalizing some of the conference arrangements in order to give us additional time to make informed decisions.
- Working on alternative ways of presenting and discussing contributions in case some contributors will not be able to travel to Heidelberg.

Since the situation is currently changing rapidly, we want to encourage you to carefully monitor your individual travel situation, including any travel restrictions and recommendations by the authorities.

As the situation unfolds right now, we are in a difficult situation. Nevertheless, based on the current state of knowledge, we are planning to have ICAME 41 as scheduled. Since there might be participants who will not be able to travel due to local conditions, we are working on alternative plans allowing these participants to present and discuss their work digitally.

We hope that all of this finds your understanding. This is a difficult situation. But we shall find a solution and keep you posted!

Best regards,



Beatrix Busse and the ICAME 41 team

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