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Dear members of the Spanish Association of Surgeons, surgeons, residents and society in general,

The Spanish Association of Surgeons and today's society, as we know it, has never faced a problem of these characteristics. The crisis in which we are immersed due to the rapid spread of the **pandemic by the COVID-19** has found us unprotected to provide an adequate and rapid response.

It is **worth admiring** how **health professionals** from all statements are working in the front line to solve and control the current situation with the resources at our disposal. We must have only words of admiration and encouragement so that we have the strength to withstand the mental and physical pressure of being on the front line of the problem.

Surgeons, as Health professionals, are going to find ourselves fully immersed in the problem given that we have to continue to deal with circumstances that put our patients' lives at risk, such as the need to carry out emergency interventions and resolve oncological patients in the context of the different situations that are arising in our hospitals. Likewise, we will have to perform surgeries in COVID-19 positive patients and, if necessary, we will have to go down to the "front line" to work and help our colleagues.

It is time to send a message of **support and hope for the future** in order to overcome this crisis, knowing that it will be necessary to fight even if we expose our health and that of our families. It is time to praise all the surgeons and the residents who, because of the need of their centres, are already on "front line" and to send a message of solidarity with surgeons who have already given positive results. **Each and every one of you have the support of the Spanish association of Surgeons.**

It is time for unity, to be above other problems and concerns; and it is undoubtedly time for the Spanish association of Surgeons **to work on appropriate recommendations** to help manage the different situations that will arise in our activity as doctors and surgeons.

We will like to emphasize that the Spanish Association of Surgeons is with you, that we are open to your suggestions and to listen to your needs. We have set up groups of experts who are developing practical recommendations to help us make the most appropriate decisions in these situations, and as many committees as necessary will be set up to resolve the doubts and needs that arise during the evolution of this pandemic.

As surgeons and residents, as doctors and as persons we are all together to work with all the tools available to defeat this pandemic.

All our support to all of you,

Asociación Española de Cirujanos