



March 27, 2020

As coronavirus continues to spread around the world, many of our members have reached out to IVUN for guidance. We realize this may be a worrying time, as many of you are at high risk for serious complications from COVID-19. Above all, we recommend following the [CDC guidelines](#) to limit your exposure to the virus to the greatest extent possible.

The Chest Foundation has published an excellent guide specifically for users of home mechanical ventilation, "[COVID-19 Resources: Care Recommendations for Home-Based Ventilation Patients](#)." It includes advice on how to limit the spread of infectious particles, care for your ventilator, protect caregivers and family members, and prevent secondary infections. Most importantly, it offers advice on what to do should you need to go to the hospital, either for COVID-19 or an unrelated issue.

Remember, there is a lot of misinformation out there. Check to make sure what you're reading come from a reputable source. The CDC website above is a great source of information. Also check the website of your local health department for helpful information specific to where you live. Some newspapers such as the New York Times (but also many local papers) have lifted their paywalls for coronavirus-related articles. Finally, for any specific concerns or questions you have about your own health, please contact your physician.

Regards,
Brian Tiburzi
Executive Director, [IVUN](#)