

SUO | AADO | OPDO

Statement on Discrimination

Crises like the COVID-19 pandemic can bring out the best and worst in people. We have seen many examples of people rising to the occasion, helping others in need, sometimes at great risk or sacrifice to themselves.

Sadly, there have also been reports of verbal and physical assaults of Asian Americans and other people of Asian descent in surgical community and the public at large. The Society of University Otolaryngologists-Head and Neck Surgeons (SUO) strongly condemn these actions.

The SUO supports all health care personnel who provide indispensable services in our communities and maintains that they must be able to continue to do so without the apprehension of hatred and violence resulting from racism and bigotry.

What perhaps makes the COVID-19 pandemic unique is that we are literally all in this together – across boundaries illusory and recognized, across nations, oceans, and the globe. Therefore, we have a rare opportunity at hand. We must push back against the language of fear and hostility, and adopt the language of inclusion, compassion and empowerment. Together, we can rise to the challenge.