



Dear AFDA members,

I am a professor in the College of Public Health of the University of Iowa. I am writing to inform you of a survey we have developed to assess stress, coping and wellbeing of fatalities management workers (FMW) specifically in relation to COVID-19. FMW include: Funeral Service Practitioner, Funeral home staff (unlicensed), Medical Examiner/Coroner, Medical Examiner/Coroner Investigator, Pathologist, Medical Examiner/Coroner Investigator staff (unlicensed). Crematory Operator, Hospital Decedent Care Specialist/Morgue Attendant/Autopsy Assistant, Funeral Service Intern/Student, Medical Examiner/Coroner Intern/Student, or other persons who are tasked with managing the final disposition of deceased individuals.

As fatalities management workers, or 'last responders', you are the invisible faces of COVID-19. Yet your work is essential. To date, there has been very little research to understand the consequences of COVID-19 on fatalities management workers. Results from this survey will be used to guide supportive interventions to promote health and wellbeing of FMW.

Eligibility for this survey includes being 18 years of age or older, and not having already completed the survey in the last three weeks.

If you are eligible and interested in participating, please click on this [link](#). This will take you to the survey. The first page of the survey will provide more information on the survey, and your rights as a participant.

If you know other fatalities management workers that are not members of this association but would be interested in participating, please feel free to forward this email to them.

Sincerely

Rima Afifi, PhD, MPH
Professor
Department of Community and Behavioral Health
College of Public Health
University of Iowa