

NIHR Global Research Unit on Global Surgery
Office 15, 2nd Floor, Institute of Translational Medicine
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Birmingham, B15 2TH

19th March 2020
a.a.bhangu@bham.ac.uk

RE: CovidSurg study

Dear colleague,

We are writing to you on behalf of the CovidSurg collaborative group, an international network of surgeons and anaesthetists. COVID-19 is a rapidly expanding global challenge, placing a huge burden on healthcare systems.

There is no evidence to inform the management of surgical patients with COVID-19 infection. Capturing real-world data and sharing international experience will support the management of this complex group of patients, improving their clinical care.

We would be delighted to if you and your local team could take part in the CovidSurg study. This study aims to assess surgical outcomes in COVID-19 infected patients all over the world to inform clinical practice during this pandemic and in future similar settings.

Given the exceptional circumstances that we are living and the very low risk of observational data collection, we believe that local approvals need to be as agile as possible. To this date, we have more than 1500 colleagues registered for CovidSurg and 4 local approvals already obtained. We encourage you to seeking your own local approval and to include patients from your hospital.

The CovidSurg group will run a series of further studies alongside with the main cohort study, including a cancer focused study and hospital-level surveys. You will be updated regularly and you are very welcome to join and contribute.

All the collaborators participating in CovidSurg will be recognised with PubMed-indexed collaborative co-authorship on any resulting papers (example: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29452941>).





Please contact our team for any queries through covidsurg@contacts.bham.ac.uk and visit our website for detailed information about the studies at www.globalsurgery/covidsurg.org.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aneel Bhangu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mr Aneel Bhangu MBChB PhD FRCS
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