



April 6, 2020

Dear Colleagues,

I know you've probably gotten lots of letters like this one from CEOs of companies, but this one is different. I'm not going to tell you that IBIA is standing by you during these challenging times, even though that's true. Our work to educate and inform, to advocate for industry-related advancements in the stimulus funding, and to foster collaboration continues. What I really want to do is to solicit your help and your good ideas about how we can make our lives better, based on what we're learning during this pandemic.

If you have ideas about how to use our technology to slow the spread of contagion, to detect disease directly or symptoms indirectly, and be prepared for the next pandemic event, please send them to us and we'll serve as a conduit to get your ideas to lawmakers and decision-makers. Just to prime the ideas pump, here are a few ideas:

- Fingerprint readers can be used by a single user without issue. For public (multi-user) applications, add UV-C surface illumination to automatically disinfect fingerprint readers between uses. Augment with touchless hand sanitizer stations. Consider providing convenient disinfecting wipes at the access points.
- Use face recognition, iris-at-a-distance, and touchless fingerprint readers to facilitate stand-off identification and authentication.
- Use rapid DNA technology, adapted for pathogen identification, to do previously long-lead PCR-based coronavirus testing, in 45 to 90 minutes.
- Use multispectral imaging to identify febrile people passing checkpoints and entering buildings.

Our industry is blessed with some of the smartest people I know, and I'm sure you have ideas about how to make our lives better as we face this pandemic challenge together as a species. For many people, this is an existential threat, and for those of us who survive, it is likely that our lives and ways of working together will have to change – forever. If we have to change, let's change for the better. Be a part of envisioning what "better" really is.

Let's all step up and pull together. I'm asking you to do two things. First, if you are not a member, join us, and if you are a member, recruit a non-member. Our ability to influence grows with each member. Second, send me your ideas, and we'll see how we can help by using our industry influence for the good of us all. Email us at [Info@IBIA.org](mailto:Info@IBIA.org), and let's see what good we can do – together.

Sincerely,

John Mears

Chairperson