**Making the Most of The Virtual Conference:**

General Tips:

* Check your network and devices before the event. Don’t miss out on your favorite talk because your PC needs to be updated.
* Set goals / Make a plan / Set aside time… the live portion of the conference takes place June 17 & 18. Check the schedule and set aside time to see the talks you are most interested in when they premiere. Although almost all talks are pre-recorded (and will be available, on demand, for 90 days), many of the speakers will be available for live text chat during the live presentation.
  + See as much of the live conference as you can on the 17th and 18th, and also remember that you can view others for 90 days after the conference.
* PARTICIPATE! This event is not what we had planned initially and will certainly feel different from a physical conference. Make the most out of it by applying what we have all learned during social distancing: effective use of electronic communication. For our meeting, this means using the live text chat in all of the talks and poster booths you attend. Ask questions, debate findings, provide alternate hypotheses! Talks and posters can feel vibrant and interactive if we all engage proactively. Also, wander into the main Chat Lounge in the Conference Lobby. The Chat Lounge is always open for a small discussion or large, public sharing of ideas. We created some ‘starter’ rooms; you can create a themed-room yourself that will attract others throughout the conference.
* Visit our sponsors: Find a graduate program – compare them. Invite them to chat. Visit the APA booths – you’ll probably join APA one day if you’re not already a member. For you aspiring clinicians, there’s even a booth for insurance you’ll need one day.
* Make time to visit posters. There’s a lot of science here, and some creative presentations!
* Please show compassion for this novel process; we are all amateurs here! Be aware that the audio, lighting, etc. of recordings varies substantially. You may have to adjust your speaker volume between speakers and squint to see some graphs.

For Pre-Recorded Talk Sessions:

* We have maintained the timing of the physical conference (80 min sessions with 10 min between each). That gives you plenty of time to rest your eyes/brain, freshen up, etc.
* If you are a presenter, pop a note in the chat at the beginning of the session to say that you are monitoring the chat and able to answer questions.
* If you are an “audience member,” feel free to chat *during the talks*. If the speakers are in the chat listening to their own talks, it’s a great opportunity to ask questions!

For Poster Presenters:

* The login for attending the conference is different from the administrative one you have used to create your booth. Keep both handy! You need the administrative one to toggle your booth chat on/off and the new one to access the actual conference environment.
* \*\*\*Have you forgotten to create your header? 20% of posters currently have no header. Without one, you’ll be a mere silhouette and difficult to find in the exhibit hall.\*\*\*