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To the Chief Executive Officer of:

Tesco, Co-op Food, Sainsbury's, Iceland, Marks & Spencer, Aldi, Lidl, Asda, Morrisons and Waitrose.

20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Chief Executive,

I am writing to you on behalf of front-line hospital doctors to request that you urgently put in place special arrangements to ensure that they and their NHS colleagues are not left struggling to obtain groceries and supplies.

We appreciate and are grateful to you all for working hard to support our communities and Isolated individuals and families.

We also appreciate that some stores are including essential workers in their policy of opening for one hour purely for more vulnerable members of society.

However, we have had concerning reports of medical staff coming off long shifts after having planned deliveries of groceries cancelled, only to be unable to obtain food and other essentials locally.

We have had reports of our members and their colleagues, who are currently spending huge energy each day preparing for and dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic, breaking down in tears at their inability to secure sustenance for them and their families.

This is clearly an intolerable additional stress which will undermine attempts to keep our key NHS workers fit and healthy at their country's time of great need.

We would therefore urge your supermarket to urgently introduce measures, or reassure us of plans which may already be in existence, to:

1. Allow hospital staff to place orders which are kept safe for later collection within stores.
2. To reserve delivery spots for key workers who are unable to attend stores within the reduced opening hours.

I am sure that you will agree that this is an essential issue which requires rapid action by all supermarket chains.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further, and look forward to hearing from you at the earliest opportunity to set out the steps you intend to take to resolve this issue.

*The **professional** association and trade union for hospital doctors, wherever you are in your career*

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paoloni'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'P'.

Dr Claudia Paoloni. BSc. Mb BS FRCA  
President, HCSA