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For immediate release

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MEDIA ADVISORY

MPT’s Direct Connection program on March 9 to focus on coronavirus

What: Direct Connection with Jeff Salkin will connect viewers statewide with medical experts who can answers questions about the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

When: Monday, March 9 at 7 p.m.

How to watch: The program will be broadcast live on MPT-HD and live-streamed statewide. At the conclusion of the broadcast, the discussion will continue online on the Direct Connection livestream at mpt.org/live.

Livestream: Available during MPT broadcast at mpt.org/anywhere/live-stream-mpt/

Viewer questions: Viewers can email questions in advance to livequestions@mpt.org. During the live program, MPT viewers can call-in using 1-800-926-0629 and connect via Twitter @mptnews.

Medical guests: David Marcozzi, MD and Matthew Frieman, PhD will appear on the program to answer viewer questions –

Dr. Marcozzi serves as COVID-19 Incident Commander for the University of Maryland Medical System. He is an associate professor and associate chair of Population Health within the Department of Emergency Medicine at the UM School of Medicine (SOM), serves as an adjunct associate professor in the Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, SOM, as assistant chief medical officer for Acute Care at the University of Maryland Medical Center, and is deputy medical director for Mobile Integrated Healthcare for the Baltimore City Fire Department.

Dr. Frieman is a virologist who studies highly pathogenic coronaviruses and an associate professor of Microbiology and Immunology at the UM School of Medicine. His research has focused on the recently emerged and highly pathogenic coronaviruses: Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (SARS-CoV) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV).