

## Australian Medical Professional Society

18/06/2025

### Subject: Challenging Influenza Vaccine Mandates – Information for Members

Dear Members,

We are writing to provide an update on a matter of concern to many AMPS members; the continued enforcement of mandatory influenza vaccination policies for healthcare and allied workers in both NSW and Victoria, without any transparent risk-benefit analysis being made available to the public. Despite formal requests made by our organisation and others, neither the NSW Health nor Victorian Health departments have produced any clear documentation showing the scientific evidence, modelling, or risk-benefit data justifying these mandates. Instead, they have deferred to unnamed “expert committees” without disclosing the evidence used, the reasoning behind the mandates, or the existence of any conflict of interest among committee members.

Let us be clear: our organisation does not oppose vaccination. We support access to safe, effective medical care and the right to informed choice. What we strongly oppose are medical mandates, especially when:

- There is no transparency around how these decisions are made;
- The evidence of benefit over risk is weak, inconclusive, or contested;
- There is growing evidence suggesting that the mandated product may offer only marginal or inconsistent protection.

As a recent example, a large-scale study conducted by the [Cleveland Clinic](#) in the United States found a 27% increased risk of influenza in vaccinated healthcare workers compared to their unvaccinated counterparts during the most recent season. Additionally, respected experts such as Professor Carl Heneghan of Oxford University have raised longstanding concerns over the variable and often poor performance of the seasonal influenza vaccine, particularly in otherwise healthy working-age adults. Given these realities, we encourage any of our members who are uncomfortable with receiving the influenza vaccine whether for medical, ethical, or evidentiary reasons to consider challenging the mandate on an individual basis. We as an organisation are continuing to pursue details of the risk-benefit analysis that was undertaken by the respective health departments to justify what we see as a political, or possibly commercial, decision.

### What You Can Do

If you choose not to comply with the influenza vaccine mandate, you could consider the following steps:

#### 1. Request Written Justification

Ask your employer or local health authority to provide the evidence and risk-benefit analysis that supports the mandate. You are entitled to request:

- o The scientific data used to inform the mandate;
- o Evidence of effectiveness in preventing transmission;
- o Consideration of known risks and adverse events. A risk assessment;

- o Any conflicts of interest among decision-makers.
- 2. **Submit a Formal Objection**  
Write a polite but firm objection outlining your reasons for declining the vaccine. Emphasise your:
  - o Commitment to patient safety;
  - o Right to informed consent and bodily autonomy;
  - o Concerns about the lack of transparency and the available evidence;
  - o Willingness to adopt alternative infection control measures that are evidence base (e.g. regular handwashing).
- 3. **Request a Declination Form**  
Depending on your circumstances, consider applying for:
  - o A conscientious objection, if your workplace allows for this;
  - o Legal advice, if your employment may be affected by non-compliance.
- 4. **Document All Correspondence**  
Keep a written record of all emails, letters, and conversations. This may be important for future reference or appeals.
- 5. **Reach Out to Us**  
Our organisation is here to support members navigating this issue. Please contact us if you would like help drafting a letter, preparing a request, or responding to a directive.

## Final Word

We encourage respectful dialogue and informed decision-making. We support every member's right to decline medical interventions they do not believe are in their best interest, particularly when robust evidence is either lacking or has not been provided.

Warm regards,

**AMPS**

## Disclaimer

The Australian Medical Professionals Society (AMPS) provides this document for general informational purposes only. It is not intended as legal, medical, or employment advice. The suggested actions and information presented are based on available sources and are offered to assist members in making informed decisions. Members are encouraged to seek independent legal or professional advice tailored to their personal circumstances before taking any action related to vaccination mandates or employment conditions.