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## Westpac and Covid job mandates - why were employees denied a voluntary decision on this medical intervention?

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Elizabeth Hart <elizmhart@gmail.com>

Wed, Jan 4, 2023 at 3:43 PM

To: pking@westpac.com.au

Cc: Emma McArthur <ejminoz@gmail.com>

**For the attention of:**

Peter King  
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer  
Westpac Group  
Via: [pking@westpac.com.au](mailto:pking@westpac.com.au)

Peter King, in October 2021, the ABC reported that **Westpac had mandated that its staff be 'fully vaccinated' against Covid-19**, see: [Westpac, CBA make COVID-19 vaccines mandatory for all staff](#). (Copy attached.)

The [Westpac website currently states](#): (Copy attached)

**The Westpac Group has implemented an Entry to Workplace Policy that requires employees and others entering our workplaces to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19** by relevant dates set out in the policy (subject to applicable medical exemptions). Our employees are required to comply with the policy regardless of whether they are in customer-facing or non customer-facing roles (as employees in non customer-facing roles are required to attend the workplace under our Hybrid Working Strategy). Further, **the Westpac Group is required to comply with State/Territory issued public health orders/directions which require relevant workers to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to enter workplaces**. (Emphasis added.)

Peter King:

- Q.1. **On what basis did Westpac mandate Covid jobs for its staff?**
- Q.2. **What medical evidence underpins this mandated medical intervention?**
- Q.3. **What State/Territory issued public health orders/directions require Westpac workers to be jabbed against Covid-19 to enter workplaces? What medical evidence underpins such issued public health orders/directions?**
- Q.4. **Was Westpac pressured or incentivised by Federal, State or Territory governments to implement workplace Covid job mandates?**

Peter King, **it appears that Westpac's Covid job mandate for its employees contravenes a health practitioner's obligation to obtain valid consent before a medical intervention**, i.e. a person's *voluntary* decision about health care that is made with knowledge and understanding of the benefits and risks involved.

In this regard, the Australian Department of Health and Aged Care has recently confirmed to me that:

**"Informed consent should be obtained for every COVID-19 vaccination, as per usual consent procedures for other vaccinations."** See Department of Health and Aged Care [letter dated 17 November 2022](#), copy attached.

The *Australian Immunisation Handbook* states, under **"Valid consent"**:

**"For consent to be legally valid, the following elements must be present...It must be given voluntarily in the absence of undue pressure, coercion or manipulation...It can only be given after the potential risks and benefits of the relevant vaccine, the risks of not having it, and any alternative options have been explained to the person."**

The Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) has also confirmed to me in writing that practitioners have an obligation to obtain informed consent, i.e.

**"Practitioners have an obligation to obtain informed consent for treatment, including vaccination. Informed consent is a person's voluntary decision about health care that is made with knowledge and**

understanding of the benefits and risks involved." See [AHPRA letter dated 21 September 2021](#), copy attached.

Peter King, **on what basis did Westpac implement its Covid-19 job mandate**, what evidence did you use to justify **pressuring, coercing and manipulating** Westpac employees to submit to the Covid-19 jobs?

**Why did Westpac remove its employees' freedom to make a voluntary decision - without penalty - about their health care?**

I request your early response.

Sincerely

Elizabeth Hart

Independent researcher investigating vaccine products and conflicts of interest in vaccination policy  
[vaccinationispolitical.net](http://vaccinationispolitical.net)

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#### 4 attachments



**Westpac, CBA make COVID-19 vaccines mandatory for all staff - ABC News.pdf**

1014K



**Covid-19 vaccination and access to our worksites \_ Westpac.pdf**

265K



**response-from-ahpra-re-informed-consent.pdf**

105K



**mc22-018819-signed-highlighted-1.pdf**

177K