



Elizabeth Hart <elizmhart@gmail.com>

'Exemptions' for Covid-19 vaccinations directly contradicts voluntary informed consent

Elizabeth Hart <elizmhart@gmail.com>

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To: minister.butler@health.gov.au

Cc: covid19vaccinerfi@health.gov.au, Brendan.Murphy@health.gov.au, nigel.crawford@mcri.edu.au, a.wilson@sydney.edu.au

For the attention of:

Mark Butler
Minister for Health and Aged Care
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

Mark Butler, I've been advised by the Department of Health and Aged Care that:

"Informed consent should be obtained for every COVID-19 vaccination, as per usual consent procedures for other vaccinations."

As health practitioners are legally and ethically obligated to obtain voluntary informed consent before every COVID-19 vaccination, **why should anyone have to obtain a COVID-19 exemption to not have a COVID-19 vaccination?**

Who are the individual medical practitioners behind this Department of Health COVID-19 Vaccine exemptions information, which completely flouts the legal and ethical obligation for voluntary informed consent?

The Australian Immunisation Handbook states:

"Valid consent is the **voluntary agreement** by an individual to a proposed procedure, which is **given** after **sufficient, appropriate and reliable information about the procedure, including the potential risks and benefits**, has been conveyed to that individual." (My emphasis.)

As **stated** by the Australian Law Reform Commission, under common law:

"As part of their duty of care, **health professionals must obtain 'informed consent' by providing such information as is necessary for the patient to give consent to treatment**, including information on all material risks of the proposed treatment..." (My emphasis.)

The Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Healthcare **Fact Sheet for Clinicians on Informed consent in health care** acknowledges key principles for informed consent, including:

"...adults have the right to determine what will be done to their bodies and what healthcare treatments they will undergo."

and

"For there to be valid informed consent, the person consenting must... Have enough information about their condition, treatment options, the benefits and risks relevant to them, and alternative options for them to make an informed decision to consent. This includes the opportunity to ask questions and discuss concerns."

Again quoting the Australian Law Reform Commission: **"At common law, all competent adults can consent to and refuse medical treatment. If consent is not established, there may be legal consequences for health professionals"**.

Mark Butler, **why should anyone have to obtain an exemption to not have a vaccination, given that they are supposed to be voluntarily giving their informed consent to this medical intervention**, which may also include their choice to not have the intervention.

I look forward to your response on this matter, including disclosure of the identity of the individual medical practitioners behind the Department of Health **COVID-19 Vaccine exemptions** information.

Sincerely

Elizabeth Hart

Independent researcher investigating vaccine products and conflicts of interest in vaccination policy
vaccinationispolitical.net

Documents cited also attached.

4 attachments



mc22-018819-signed-highlighted-1.pdf
178K



COVID-19 Vaccine exemptions.pdf
115K



Consent to medical treatment _ ALRC.pdf
182K



Fact Sheet for clinicians- Informed consent in health care.pdf
336K